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**(54) Title: HETEROMULTIMERIC TNF LIGAND FAMILY MEMBERS**

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Neutrophile-0		Neutrophile-0	
1	AAATCAGGATTACTCTCTTGCGGTGACCAAGGACTCCATCTTACGGAGAAC	60	
6:	ATTCACAGCACAGATAAGAGAATGATTCATCTCTTGCTGTTCTTAAAGGCC	120	
22:	CCACCTCTTCAATTGATCTTATGATATGATCTGAGAGAGAGGAGGAACTGGC	180	
1	R G G T E R E Q S R L L	180	
161:	TTCATCTTGCTTAAAGAAGAAGAATTCAGAGCTGGAGCTGTTCTTCATCTC	240	
13	T S C L K K R E E H K L K E C V S I L      32	240	
243:	CACCCCCGAAACCCCCTTCTGGCATCTCGAGAGACGGCTGGCTGGCTGACCT	300	
33:	P R S F P S S S A G K L A A T      52	300	
301:	TCTGCTGCTGACTCTCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTG	360	
	L L A L I S C C L T Y F T V O A A      72	360	
362:	TGACGGAGACCTGGACCTGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG	420	
73	D G G A S I R A F I D G H A E K F P    52	420	
421:	CAGCAGAGACGGGGCCCAACGGGGCTGGAGAAGCTTCAAGCTTCAACGGGGAC	480	
93	A E A G A P A R A G I C E C A P A Y T A G L   112	480	
481:	TTGAAATTCTTACACCAAGCTTCAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGA	540	
123	K I F E P P A P G E G H S S Q R S R K   132	540	
133:	AGCTGGCTTCTGGAGCTGAGAGAGACCTACTGAGATGCTGGCTGCTGGAG	600	
	R A V D O V T Y T O C G T C T G C T G   152	600	
601:	ACAGTGAACACCACTATACAGAGAGGACTTACATCTTCTTCATCTTCATCT	660	
133:	S E T P T I O K E S Y T F K P W L I S E   172	660	CD-V
661:	TTAAGGCGGAGTCCTAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAG	720	
173:	K R G S A L F E K E N K I L Y K F E G T   192	720	
721:	ACTTTTTATATAGTGTAGGTTTAATCTACTTGAGACGAGCTACGGCTGACCTAA	780	
193:	F F I T Y G R V Y T D C T Y A M G L      212	780	CD-VI
781:	TTTACAGGGAGACAGCTCAATTTCTGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG	840	
233:	D O R K A Y V Y T D G E L S L I F R S      222	840	CD-VII
841:	GTATCCAAATTCATCTGCTGACCTACCCAAATACTCTCTCTCTCTCTCTCT	900	
233:	G G F D F T T T T D E L S L I F R S      222	900	CD-VIII
961:	AACCTGGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGA	960	
253:	H G F D F T T T T D E L S L I F R A Q I S I   1080	960	CD-IV
983:	TGGATGGATGGATGGACATTCTTCTGGCTGCTAACAGCTTGCTGCTACTTACACCAGT	1020	
273:	D G D V T F F E S A K I L      265	1020	CD-II
1023:	CTGTAETCTTTCCTGCTTCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTG	1080	
1041:	CCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC	1100	

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**(57) Abstract:** The present invention relates to compositions comprising heteromultimeric complexes, and particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of TNF ligand family members, and methods of using such complexes in the detection, prevention, and treatment of disease. Heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes comprising human TNF ligand polypeptides, including soluble forms of the extracellular domains, as well as membrane bound forms of TNF ligand polypeptides are provided. Heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes are also provided as are vectors, host cells and recombinant methods for producing the same. The invention further relates to screening methods for identifying agonists and antagonists of heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes. Also provided are diagnostic methods for detecting immune system-related disorders and therapeutic methods for treating immune system-related disorders.



*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

## HETEROMULTIMERIC TNF LIGAND FAMILY MEMBERS

### ***FIELD OF THE INVENTION***

[0001] The present invention relates to compositions comprising heteromultimeric complexes, and particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of TNF ligand family members, and methods of using such complexes in the detection, prevention, and treatment of disease.

### ***BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION***

[0002] Human tumor necrosis factors (TNF-alpha) and (TNF-beta, or lymphotoxin) are related members of a broad class of polypeptide mediators, which includes the interferons, interleukins and growth factors, collectively called cytokines (Beutler, B. and Cerami, A., *Annu. Rev. Immunol.* 7:625-655 (1989)). Sequence analysis of cytokine receptors has defined several subfamilies of membrane proteins (1) the Ig superfamily, (2) the hematopoietin (cytokine receptor superfamily) and (3) the tumor necrosis factor (TNF)/nerve growth factor (NGF) receptor superfamily (for review of TNF superfamily see, Gruss and Dower, *Blood* 85(12) :3378-3404 (1995) and Aggarwal and Natarajan, *Eur. Cytokine Netw.*, 7(2):93-124 (1996)). The TNF/NGF receptor superfamily contains at least 10 different proteins. Gruss and Dower, *supra*. Ligands for these receptors have been identified and belong to at least two cytokine superfamilies. Gruss and Dower, *supra*.

[0003] Tumor necrosis factor (a mixture of TNF-alpha and TNF-beta) was originally discovered as a result of its anti-tumor activity, however, now it is recognized as a pleiotropic cytokine capable of numerous biological activities including apoptosis of some transformed cell lines, mediation of cell activation and proliferation and also as playing important roles in immune regulation and inflammation.

[0004] Known members of the TNF-ligand superfamily include, for example, TNF-alpha, TNF-beta (lymphotoxin-alpha), LT-beta, OX40L, Fas ligand, CD30L, CD27L, CD40L and 4-IBBL. The ligands of the TNF ligand superfamily are acidic, TNF-like molecules with approximately 20% sequence homology in the extracellular domains (range, 12%-36%) and exist mainly as membrane-bound forms with the biologically active form being a trimeric/multimeric complex. Soluble forms of the TNF ligand superfamily have been identified, for example, for TNF, LT-beta, and Fas ligand (for a general review, see Gruss, H. and Dower, S.K., *Blood*, 85(12):3378-3404 (1995)), which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. These proteins are involved in regulation of cell proliferation, activation, and differentiation, including control of cell survival or death by apoptosis or cytotoxicity (Armitage, R.J., *Curr. Opin. Immunol.* 6:407 (1994) and Smith, C.A., *Cell* 75:959 (1994)).

[0005] Tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-alpha; also termed cachectin; hereinafter "TNF") is secreted primarily by monocytes and macrophages in response to endotoxin or other stimuli as a soluble homotrimer of 17 kD protein subunits (Smith, R.A. et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 262:6951-6954 (1987)). A membrane-bound 26 kD precursor form of TNF has also been described (Kriegler, M. et al., *Cell* 53:45-53 (1988)).

[0006] Accumulating evidence indicates that TNF is a regulatory cytokine with pleiotropic biological activities. These activities include: inhibition of lipoprotein lipase synthesis ("cachectin" activity) (Beutler, B. et al., *Nature* 316:552 (1985)), activation of polymorphonuclear leukocytes (Klebanoff, S.J. et al., *J. Immunol.* 136:4220 (1986); Perussia, B., et al., *J. Immunol.* 138:765 (1987)), inhibition of cell growth or stimulation of cell growth (Vilcek, J. et al., *J. Exp. Med.* 163:632 (1986); Sugarman, B. J. et al., *Science* 230:943 (1985); Lachman, L.B. et al., *J. Immunol.* 138:2913 (1987)), cytotoxic action on certain transformed cell types (Lachman, L.B. et al., supra; Darzynkiewicz, Z. et al., *Canc. Res.* 44:83 (1984)), antiviral activity (Kohase, M. et al., *Cell* 45:659 (1986); Wong, G.H.W. et al., *Nature* 323:819 (1986)), stimulation of bone resorption (Bertolini, D.R. et al., *Nature* 319:516 (1986); Saklatvala, J., *Nature* 322:547 (1986)), stimulation of collagenase and prostaglandin E2 production (Dayer, J.-M. et al., *J. Exp. Med.* 162:2163 (1985)); and immunoregulatory actions, including activation of T cells (Yokota, S. et al., *J. Immunol.* 140:531 (1988)), B cells (Kehrl, J.H. et al., *J. Exp. Med.* 166:786 (1987)), monocytes (Philip, R. et al., *Nature* 323:86 (1986)), thymocytes (Ranges, G.E. et al., *J.*

*Exp. Med.* 167:1472 (1988)), and stimulation of the cell-surface expression of major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class I and class II molecules (Collins, T. *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 83:446 (1986); Pujol-Borrel, R. *et al.*, *Nature* 326:304 (1987)).

[0007] TNF is noted for its pro-inflammatory actions which result in tissue injury, such as induction of procoagulant activity on vascular endothelial cells (Pober, J.S. *et al.*, *J. Immunol.* 136:1680 (1986)), increased adherence of neutrophils and lymphocytes (Pober, J.S. *et al.*, *J. Immunol.* 138:3319 (1987)), and stimulation of the release of platelet activating factor from macrophages, neutrophils and vascular endothelial cells (Camussi, G. *et al.*, *J. Exp. Med.* 166:1390 (1987)).

[0008] Recent evidence implicates TNF in the pathogenesis of many infections (Cerami, A. *et al.*, *Immunol. Today* 9:28 (1988)), immune disorders, neoplastic pathology, e.g., in cachexia accompanying some malignancies (Oliff, A. *et al.*, *Cell* 50:555 (1987)), and in autoimmune pathologies and graft-versus host pathology (Piguet, P.-F. *et al.*, *J. Exp. Med.* 166:1280 (1987)). The association of TNF with cancer and infectious pathologies is often related to the host's catabolic state. A major problem in cancer patients is weight loss, usually associated with anorexia. The extensive wasting which results is known as "cachexia" (Kern, K. A. *et al.* *J. Parent. Enter. Nutr.* 12:286-298 (1988)). Cachexia includes progressive weight loss, anorexia, and persistent erosion of body mass in response to a malignant growth. The cachectic state is thus associated with significant morbidity and is responsible for the majority of cancer mortality. A number of studies have suggested that TNF is an important mediator of the cachexia in cancer, infectious pathology, and in other catabolic states.

[0009] TNF is thought to play a central role in the pathophysiological consequences of Gram-negative sepsis and endotoxic shock (Michie, H.R. *et al.*, *Br. J. Surg.* 76:670-671 (1989); Debets, J. M. H. *et al.*, *Second Vienna Shock Forum*, p.463-466 (1989); Simpson, S. Q. *et al.*, *Crit. Care Clin.* 5:27-47 (1989)), including fever, malaise, anorexia, and cachexia. Endotoxin is a potent monocyte/macrophage activator which stimulates production and secretion of TNF (Kornbluth, S.K. *et al.*, *J. Immunol.* 137:2585-2591 (1986)) and other cytokines. Because TNF could mimic many biological effects of endotoxin, it was concluded to be a central mediator responsible for the clinical manifestations of endotoxin-related illness. TNF and other monocyte-derived cytokines mediate the metabolic and neurohormonal responses to endotoxin (Michie, H.R. *et al.*, *N.*

*Eng. J. Med.* 318:1481-1486 (1988)). Endotoxin administration to human volunteers produces acute illness with flu-like symptoms including fever, tachycardia, increased metabolic rate and stress hormone release (Revhaug, A. et al., *Arch. Surg.* 123:162-170 (1988)). Elevated levels of circulating TNF have also been found in patients suffering from Gram-negative sepsis (Waage, A. et al., *Lancet* 1:355-357 (1987); Hammerle, A.F. et al., *Second Vienna Shock Forum* p. 715-718 (1989); Debets, J. M. H. et al., *Crit. Care Med.* 17:489-497 (1989); Calandra, T. et al., *J. Infect. Dis.* 161:982-987 (1990)).

[010] Passive immunotherapy directed at neutralizing TNF may have a beneficial effect in Gram-negative sepsis and endotoxemia, based on the increased TNF production and elevated TNF levels in these pathology states, as discussed above. Antibodies to a "modulator" material which was characterized as cachectin (later found to be identical to TNF) were disclosed by Cerami et al. (EPO Patent Publication 0,212,489, March 4, 1987). Such antibodies were said to be useful in diagnostic immunoassays and in therapy of shock in bacterial infections. Rubin et al. (EPO Patent Publication 0,218,868, April 22, 1987) disclosed monoclonal antibodies to human TNF, the hybridomas secreting such antibodies, methods of producing such antibodies, and the use of such antibodies in immunoassay of TNF. Yone et al. (EPO Patent Publication 0,288,088, October 26, 1988) disclosed anti-TNF antibodies, including mAbs, and their utility in immunoassay diagnosis of pathologies, in particular Kawasaki's pathology and bacterial infection. The body fluids of patients with Kawasaki's pathology (infantile acute febrile mucocutaneous lymph node syndrome; Kawasaki, T., *Allergy* 16:178 (1967); Kawasaki, T., *Shonica (Pediatrics)* 26:935 (1985)) were said to contain elevated TNF levels which were related to progress of the pathology (Yone et al., *supra*).

[011] Other investigators have described mAbs specific for recombinant human TNF which had neutralizing activity *in vitro* (Liang, C-M. et al. *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm.* 137:847-854 (1986); Meager, A. et al., *Hybridoma* 6:305-311 (1987); Fendly et al., *Hybridoma* 6:359-369 (1987); Bringman, T S et al., *Hybridoma* 6:489-507 (1987); Hirai, M. et al., *J. Immunol. Meth.* 96:57-62 (1987); Moller, A. et al. (*Cytokine* 2:162-169 (1990)). Some of these mAbs were used to map epitopes of human TNF and develop enzyme immunoassays (Fendly et al., *supra*; Hirai et al., *supra*; Moller et al., *supra*) and to assist in the purification of recombinant TNF (Bringman et al., *supra*). However, these studies do not provide a basis for producing TNF neutralizing antibodies that can be used

for *in vivo* diagnostic or therapeutic uses in humans, due to immunogenicity, lack of specificity and/or pharmaceutical suitability.

[012] Neutralizing antisera or mAbs to TNF have been shown in mammals other than man to abrogate adverse physiological changes and prevent death after lethal challenge in experimental endotoxemia and bacteremia. This effect has been demonstrated, e.g., in rodent lethality assays and in primate pathology model systems (Mathison, J.C. *et al.*, *J. Clin. Invest.* 81:1925-1937 (1988); Beutler, B. *et al.*, *Science* 229:869-871 (1985); Tracey, K. J. *et al.*, *Nature* 330:662-664 (1987); Shimamoto, Y. *et al.*, *Immunol. Lett.* 17:311-318 (1988); Silva, A. T. *et al.*, *J. Infect. Dis.* 162:421-427 (1990); Opal, S. M. *et al.*, *J. Infect. Dis.* 161:1148-1152 (1990); Hinshaw, L.B. *et al.*, *Circ. Shock* 30:279-292 (1990)).

[013] To date, experience with anti-TNF mAb therapy in humans has been limited but shows beneficial therapeutic results, e.g., in arthritis and sepsis. See, e.g., Elliott, M. J. *et al.*, *Baillieres Clin. Rheumatol.* 9:633-52 (1995); Feldmann M, *et al.*, *Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci. USA* 766:272-8 (1995); van der Poll, T. *et al.*, *Shock* 3:1-12 (1995); Wherry *et al.*, *Crit. Care. Med.* 21:S436-40 (1993); Tracey K. J., *et al.*, *Crit. Care Med.* 21:S415-22 (1993).

[014] Mammalian development is dependent on both the proliferation and differentiation of cells as well as programmed cell death which occurs through apoptosis (Walker, *et al.*, *Methods Achiev. Exp. Pathol.* 13:18 (1988). Apoptosis plays a critical role in the destruction of immune thymocytes that recognize self antigens. Failure of this normal elimination process may play a role in autoimmune diseases (Gammon *et al.*, *Immunology Today* 12:193 (1991)).

[015] Itoh *et al.* (*Cell* 66:233 (1991)) described a cell surface antigen, Fas/CD95 that mediates apoptosis and is involved in clonal deletion of T-cells. Fas is expressed in activated T-cells, B-cells, neutrophils and in thymus, liver, heart and lung and ovary in adult mice (Watanabe-Fukunaga *et al.*, *J. Immunol.* 148:1274 (1992)) in addition to activated T-cells, B-cells, neutrophils. In experiments where a monoclonal Ab is cross-linked to Fas, apoptosis is induced (Yonehara *et al.*, *J. Exp. Med.* 169:1747 (1989); Trauth *et al.*, *Science* 245:301 (1989)). In addition, there is an example where binding of a monoclonal Ab to Fas is stimulatory to T-cells under certain conditions (Alderson *et al.*, *J. Exp. Med.* 178:2231 (1993)).

[016] Fas antigen is a cell surface protein of relative MW of 45 Kd. Both human and murine genes for Fas have been cloned by Watanabe-Fukunaga *et al.*, (*J. Immunol.* 148:1274 (1992)) and Itoh *et al.* (*Cell* 66:233 (1991)). The proteins encoded by these genes are both transmembrane proteins with structural homology to the Nerve Growth Factor/Tumor Necrosis Factor receptor superfamily, which includes two TNF receptors, the low affinity Nerve Growth Factor receptor and CD40, CD27, CD30, and OX40.

[017] Recently the Fas ligand has been described (Suda *et al.*, *Cell* 75:1169 (1993)). The amino acid sequence indicates that Fas ligand is a type II transmembrane protein belonging to the TNF family. Thus, the Fas ligand polypeptide comprises three main domains: a short intracellular domain at the amino terminal end and a longer extracellular domain at the carboxy terminal end, connected by a hydrophobic transmembrane domain. Fas ligand is expressed in splenocytes and thymocytes, consistent with T-cell mediated cytotoxicity. The purified Fas ligand has a MW of 40 kD.

[018] Recently, it has been demonstrated that Fas/Fas ligand interactions are required for apoptosis following the activation of T-cells (Ju *et al.*, *Nature* 373:444 (1995); Brunner *et al.*, *Nature* 373:441 (1995)). Activation of T-cells induces both proteins on the cell surface. Subsequent interaction between the ligand and receptor results in apoptosis of the cells. This supports the possible regulatory role for apoptosis induced by Fas/Fas ligand interaction during normal immune responses.

[019] Accordingly, there is a need to provide cytokines similar to TNF that are involved in pathological conditions. Such novel cytokines may be used to make novel antibodies or other antagonists that bind these TNF-like cytokines for diagnosis and therapy of disorders related to TNF-like cytokines.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[020] The present invention relates to compositions comprising heteromultimeric complexes, and particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of TNF ligand family members, and methods of using such complexes in the detection, prevention, and treatment of disease. Such heteromultimers allow for the modulation and combination of the activities of the TNF ligand family member components of the complexes (*See e.g.*, Locksley *et al.* February 23, *Cell* 104: pp487-501. (2001)).

[021] In specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, those described herein, wherein said TNF ligand family polypeptides may be full length polypeptides or extracellular polypeptide domains as described herein.

[022] In further specific embodiments the present invention provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising polypeptides at least 80% identical, more preferably at least 85% or 90% identical, and still more preferably 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to TNF ligand family members including, for example, those described herein and disclosed as SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42.

[023] In further embodiments heteromultimeric complexes of the present invention comprise polypeptides of a single TNF ligand family member, for example, as described herein, but not including CD40L or FasL, wherein said polypeptides may be full length polypeptides or extracellular polypeptide domains as described, herein.

[024] In specific embodiments heterotrimeric complexes of TNF ligand family member polypeptides of the present invention, contain three full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides; three extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides; one full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptide together with two extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides; or two full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides together with one extracellular portion of a TNF ligand family member polypeptide, wherein said complex comprises polypeptides of a single TNF ligand family member which is not CD40L or FasL.

[025] In further embodiments heteromultimeric complexes of the present invention, comprise polypeptides of two (2), or three (3) distinct TNF ligand family members, for example, as described herein, wherein said TNF ligand family polypeptides may be full length polypeptides or extracellular polypeptide domains as described herein.

[026] In further specific embodiments heterotrimeric complexes of the present invention, comprising two (2) or three (3) distinct TNF ligand family members, contain three full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides; three extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides; one full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptide together with two extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member

polypeptides; or two full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides together with one extracellular portion of a TNF ligand family member polypeptide.

[027] In further specific embodiments heterotrimeric complexes of the present invention, comprising two (2) or three (3) distinct TNF ligand family members, contain a single polypeptide of each of three TNF ligand family members; or two polypeptides of one TNF ligand family member together with a single polypeptide of a distinct TNF ligand family member, wherein each component of said complex may be a full-length polypeptide or an extracellular portion of a polypeptide as described herein.

[028] In one embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[029] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-beta polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:6.

[030] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TNF-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:4.

[031] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34.

[032] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TNF-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:4, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[033] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-beta polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:6, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[034] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-beta polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:6, together with full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34.

[035] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of OX40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:8, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[036] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:10, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[037] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:10, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TRAIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:20.

[038] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:10, together with full-length or extracellular portions of RANKL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:22.

[039] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[040] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34.

[041] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36.

[042] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[043] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD70 polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:14, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[044] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD70 polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:14, together with full-length or extracellular portions of 4-1BB-L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:18.

[045] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD70 polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:14, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24.

[046] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD30LG polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:16, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[047] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD30LG polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:16, together with full-length or extracellular portions of GITRL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:40.

[048] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of 4-1BB-L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:18, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[049] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of 4-1BB-L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:18, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24.

[050] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TRAIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:20, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[051] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TRAIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:20, together with full-length or extracellular portions of RANKL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:22.

[052] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of RANKL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:22, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[053] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[054] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36.

[055] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[056] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[057] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28.

[058] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30.

[059] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32.

[060] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[061] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[062] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30.

[063] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32.

[064] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[065] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[066] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32.

[067] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[068] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[069] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[070] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[071] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36.

[072] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[073] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[074] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[075] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[076] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of GITRL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:40, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[077] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[078] In further embodiments the present invention also provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising polypeptides of TNF ligand family members as described herein, fused to one or more heterologous polypeptide sequences.

[079] In further embodiments the present invention also provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising polypeptides at least 80% identical, more preferably at least 85% or 90% identical, and still more preferably 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to TNF ligand family members as described herein, fused to one or more heterologous polypeptide sequences.

[080] The present invention further provides for isolating antibodies that bind specifically to heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, as described above. Such antibodies are useful diagnostically or therapeutically as described below.

[081] The present invention also provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, as described above, which may be used for instance, to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose tumor and

tumor metastasis, infections by bacteria, viruses and other parasites, immunodeficiencies, inflammatory diseases, lymphadenopathy, autoimmune diseases, graft versus host disease, stimulate peripheral tolerance, destroy some transformed cell lines, mediate cell activation, survival and proliferation, mediate immune regulation and inflammatory responses, and to enhance or inhibit immune responses.

[082] In certain embodiments, heteromeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, or agonists thereof, are administered, to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose an immunodeficiency (e.g., severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID)-X linked, SCID-autosomal, adenosine deaminase deficiency (ADA deficiency), X-linked agammaglobulinemia (XLA), Bruton's disease, congenital agammaglobulinemia, X-linked infantile agammaglobulinemia, acquired agammaglobulinemia, adult onset agammaglobulinemia, late-onset agammaglobulinemia, dysgammaglobulinemia, hypogammaglobulinemia, transient hypogammaglobulinemia of infancy, unspecified hypogammaglobulinemia, agammaglobulinemia, common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) (acquired), Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome (WAS), X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, non X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, selective IgA deficiency, IgG subclass deficiency (with or without IgA deficiency), antibody deficiency with normal or elevated Igs, immunodeficiency with thymoma, Ig heavy chain deletions, kappa chain deficiency, B cell lymphoproliferative disorder (BLPD), selective IgM immunodeficiency, recessive agammaglobulinemia (Swiss type), reticular dysgenesis, neonatal neutropenia, severe congenital leukopenia, thymic alymphoplasia-aplasia or dysplasia with immunodeficiency, ataxia-telangiectasia, short limbed dwarfism, X-linked lymphoproliferative syndrome (XLP), Nezelof syndrome-combined immunodeficiency with Igs, purine nucleoside phosphorylase deficiency (PNP), MHC Class II deficiency (Bare Lymphocyte Syndrome) and severe combined immunodeficiency.) or conditions associated with an immunodeficiency.

[083] In a specific embodiment, heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, or agonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose common variable immunodeficiency.

[084] In a specific embodiment, heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, or agonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose X-linked agammaglobulinemia.

[085] In another specific embodiment, heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, or agonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID).

[086] In another specific embodiment, heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, or agonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.

[087] In another specific embodiment, heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, or agonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose X-linked Ig deficiency with hyper IgM.

[088] In another embodiment, antagonists to heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, and/or antagonists to heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of the invention, (e.g., an anti-heterotrimer complex antibody), are administered to treat, prevent, prognose and/or diagnose an autoimmune disease (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune neonatal thrombocytopenia, autoimmunocytopenia, hemolytic anemia, antiphospholipid syndrome, dermatitis, allergic encephalomyelitis, myocarditis, relapsing polychondritis, rheumatic heart disease, glomerulonephritis (e.g, IgA nephropathy), an immune-based rheumatologic disease (e.g., SLE, rheumatoid arthritis, CREST syndrome (a variant of scleroderma characterized by calcinosis, Raynaud's phenomenon, esophageal motility disorders, sclerodactyly, and telangiectasia), Seronegative spondyloarthropathy (SpA), Polymyositis/dermatomyositis, Microscopic polyangiitis, Hepatitis C-associated arthritis, Takayasu's arteritis, and undifferentiated connective tissue disorder), Multiple Sclerosis, Neuritis, Uveitis Ophthalmia, Polyendocrinopathies, Purpura (e.g., Henoch-Schoenlein purpura), Reiter's Disease, Stiff-Man Syndrome, Autoimmune Pulmonary Inflammation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, and autoimmune inflammatory eye, autoimmune thyroiditis, hypothyroidism (i.e., Hashimoto's thyroiditis, Goodpasture's syndrome, Pemphigus, Receptor autoimmunities such as, for example, (a) Graves' Disease , (b) Myasthenia Gravis, and (c) insulin resistance, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura , scleroderma with anti-collagen antibodies, mixed connective tissue disease, polymyositis/dermatomyositis, pernicious anemia, idiopathic Addison's disease, infertility,

glomerulonephritis such as primary glomerulonephritis and IgA nephropathy, bullous pemphigoid, Sjogren's syndrome, diabetes mellitus, and adrenergic drug resistance (including adrenergic drug resistance with asthma or cystic fibrosis), chronic active hepatitis, primary biliary cirrhosis, other endocrine gland failure, vitiligo, vasculitis, post-MI, cardiotomy syndrome, urticaria, atopic dermatitis, asthma, inflammatory myopathies, and other inflammatory, granulomatous, degenerative, and atrophic disorders) or conditions associated with an autoimmune disease.

[089] In a specific preferred embodiment, rheumatoid arthritis is treated, prevented, prognosed and/or diagnosed using anti-heteromultimeric complex antibodies and/or other antagonists of the invention. In another specific preferred embodiment, systemic lupus erythematosus is treated, prevented, prognosed, and/or diagnosed using anti-heteromultimeric complex antibodies and/or other antagonists of the invention. In another specific preferred embodiment, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura is treated, prevented, prognosed, and/or diagnosed using anti-heteromultimeric complex antibodies and/or other antagonists of the invention. In another specific preferred embodiment IgA nephropathy is treated, prevented, prognosed and/or diagnosed using anti-heteromultimeric complex antibodies and/or other antagonists of the invention. In a preferred embodiment, the autoimmune diseases and disorders and/or conditions associated with the diseases and disorders recited above are treated, prevented, prognosed and/or diagnosed using anti-heteromultimeric complex antibodies and/or other antagonists of the invention.

[090] The invention further provides compositions comprising for administration to cells *in heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, particularly heterotrimeric polypeptide complexes, and/or anti-heteromultimeric complex antibodies, vitro, to cells ex vivo, and to cells in vivo, or to a multicellular organism.* In preferred embodiments, the compositions of the invention comprise TNF ligand family member encoding polynucleotides for expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex in a host organism for treatment of disease. In a most preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention comprise TNF ligand family member encoding polynucleotides for expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex in a host organism for treatment of an immunodeficiency and/or conditions associated with an immunodeficiency. Particularly preferred in this regard is expression in a human patient for treatment of a dysfunction associated with aberrant endogenous activity of a TNF ligand family member and/or a TNF receptor family

member (e.g., expression to enhance the normal B-cell function by expanding B-cell numbers or increasing B cell lifespan).

[091] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for preventing, treating and/or ameliorating diseases or disorders associated with aberrant or inappropriate TNF ligand family member and/or TNF receptor family member expression or function in an animal, preferably a mammal, and most preferably a human, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such treatment, prevention or amelioration is desired one or more heteromultimeric complexes of the invention (including such complexes which comprise, or alternatively consist of, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV polypeptide fragments or variants thereof) in an amount effective to treat prevent or ameliorate the disease or disorder.

[092] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for killing cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[093] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for killing cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such killing is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex (e.g., a radiolabeled heterotrimeric polypeptide complex comprising a full-length BLyS polypeptide together with an extracellular portion of an APRIL polypeptide) in an amount effective to kill cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[094] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex stimulates TNF ligand family member-mediated immunoglobulin production.

[095] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such stimulation is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex in an amount effective to stimulate immunoglobulin production.

[096] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for stimulating proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex stimulates TNF ligand family member-mediated cell proliferation. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[097] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for stimulating proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such stimulation is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex in an amount effective to stimulate TNF ligand family member-mediated cell proliferation. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[098] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for increasing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex increases TNF ligand family member-mediated activation of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[099] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for increasing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such increase is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in an amount effective to increase TNF ligand family member-mediated activation of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0100] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for increasing lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex increases TNF ligand family member-regulated lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0101] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for increasing lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such increase is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in an amount effective to increase TNF ligand family member-regulated lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0102] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex inhibits or reduces TNF ligand family member-mediated immunoglobulin production. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0103] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such inhibition or reduction is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in an amount effective to inhibit or reduce immunoglobulin production.

[0104] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex inhibits or reduces TNF ligand family member-mediated cell proliferation. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0105] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such inhibition or reduction is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in an amount effective to inhibit or reduce TNF ligand family member-mediated cell proliferation. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0106] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for decreasing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex decreases TNF ligand family member-mediated activation of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0107] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for decreasing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such increase is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in an amount effective to decrease TNF ligand family member-mediated activation of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0108] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for decreasing lifespan of B cells, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex decreases TNF ligand family member-regulated lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0109] The present invention further encompasses methods and compositions for decreasing lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such reduction is desired, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in an amount effective to decrease TNF ligand family member-regulated lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0110] The present invention also provides a screening method for identifying compounds capable of enhancing or inhibiting a cellular response induced by heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention which involves contacting cells which express polypeptide components of the heteromultimeric complex with the candidate compound, assaying a cellular response, and comparing the cellular response to a standard cellular response, the standard being assayed when contact is made in absence

of the candidate compound; whereby, an increased cellular response over the standard indicates that the compound is an agonist and a decreased cellular response over the standard indicates that the compound is an antagonist.

[0111] In another embodiment, a method for identifying TNF receptor family members is provided, as well as a screening assay for TNF ligand family member agonists and antagonists using such receptors. This assay involves determining the effect a candidate compound on binding of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention to its receptor. In particular, the method involves contacting a TNF receptor family member with a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention and a candidate compound and determining whether heteromultimeric polypeptide complex binding to the TNF receptor family member is increased or decreased due to the presence of the candidate compound. The antagonists may be employed to prevent septic shock, inflammation, cerebral malaria, activation of the HIV virus, graft-host rejection, bone resorption, rheumatoid arthritis, cachexia (wasting or malnutrition), immune system function, lymphoma, and autoimmune disorders (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus).

[0112] TNF ligand family member polypeptides are expressed not only in cells of monocytic lineage, but also in kidney, lung, peripheral leukocyte, bone marrow, T cell lymphoma, B cell lymphoma, activated T cells, stomach cancer, smooth muscle, macrophages, and cord blood tissue. For a number of disorders of these tissues and cells, such as, for example, tumor and tumor metastasis, infection of bacteria, viruses and other parasites, immunodeficiencies (e.g., chronic variable immunodeficiency), septic shock, inflammation, cerebral malaria, activation of the HIV virus, graft-host rejection, bone resorption, rheumatoid arthritis, autoimmune diseases (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus) and cachexia (wasting or malnutrition) it is believed that significantly higher or lower levels of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising TNF ligand family members can be detected in certain tissues (e.g., bone marrow) or bodily fluids (e.g., serum, plasma, urine, synovial fluid or spinal fluid). Analysis of samples taken from an individual having such a disorder, relative to a "standard" level, i.e., the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex level in tissue or bodily fluids from an individual not having the disorder, may be useful in the detection, diagnosis and/or prognosis of such disorders. Thus, the invention provides a diagnostic method

useful during diagnosis of a disorder, which involves: (a) assaying TNF ligand family member heteromultimeric polypeptide complex level in cells or body fluid of an individual; (b) comparing the level from (a) with a standard heteromultimeric polypeptide complex level, whereby an increase or decrease in the assayed polypeptide complex level compared to the standard level is indicative of a disorder.

[0113] An additional embodiment of the invention is related to a method for treating an individual in need of an increased or constitutive level of TNF ligand family member activity in the body comprising administering to such an individual a composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an isolated heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention or an agonist thereof.

[0114] A still further embodiment of the invention is related to a method for treating an individual in need of a decreased level of activity of a TNF ligand family member in the body comprising, administering to such an individual a composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. Preferred antagonists for use in the present invention are antibodies specific for the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes described above.

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES**

[0115] The following drawings are illustrative of embodiments of the invention and are not meant to limit the scope of the invention as encompassed by the claims.

[0116] Figures 1A and 1B show the nucleotide (SEQ ID NO:1) and deduced amino acid (SEQ ID NO:2) sequences of BLyS. Amino acids 1 to 46 represent the predicted intracellular domain, amino acids 47 to 72 the predicted transmembrane domain (the double-underlined sequence), and amino acids 73 to 285, the predicted extracellular domain (the remaining sequence). Potential asparagine-linked glycosylation sites are marked in Figures 1A and 1B with a bolded asparagine symbol (N) in the BLyS amino acid sequence and a bolded pound sign (#) above the first nucleotide encoding that asparagine residue in the BLyS nucleotide sequence. Potential N-linked glycosylation sequences are found at the following locations in the BLyS amino acid sequence: N-124 through Q-127 (N-124, S-125, S-126, Q-127) and N-242 through C-245 (N-242, N-243, S-244, C-245).

[0117] Regions of high identity between BLyS, BLySSV, TNF-alpha, TNF-beta, LT-beta, and the closely related Fas Ligand (an alignment of these sequences is presented in Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D) are underlined in Figures 1A and 1B. These regions are not limiting and are labeled as Conserved Domain (CD)-I, CD-II, CD-III, CD-IV, CD-V, CD-VI, CD-VII, CD-VIII, CD-IX, CD-X, and CD-XI in Figures 1A and 1B.

[0118] Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D show the regions of identity between the amino acid sequences of BLyS (SEQ ID NO:2) and BLySSV (SEQ ID NO:19), and TNF-alpha ("TNFalpha" in Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D; GenBank No. Z15026; SEQ ID NO:3), TNF-beta ("TNFbeta" in Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D; GenBank No. Z15026; SEQ ID NO:4), Lymphotoxin-beta ("LTbeta" in Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D; GenBank No. L11016; SEQ ID NO:5), and FAS ligand ("FASL" in Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D; GenBank No. U11821; SEQ ID NO:6), determined by the "MegAlign" routine which is part of the computer program called "DNA\*STAR." Residues that match the consensus are shaded.

[0119] Figure 3 shows an analysis of the BLyS amino acid sequence. Alpha, beta, turn and coil regions; hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity; amphipathic regions; flexible regions; antigenic index and surface probability are shown, as predicted for the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 using the default parameters of the recited computer programs. In the "Antigenic Index - Jameson-Wolf" graph, the indicate location of the highly antigenic regions of BLyS i.e., regions from which epitope-bearing peptides of the invention may be obtained. Antigenic polypeptides include from about Phe-115 to about Leu-147, from about Ile-150 to about Tyr-163, from about Ser-171 to about Phe-194, from about Glu-223 to about Tyr-246, and from about Ser-271 to about Phe-278, of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

[0120] The data presented in Figure 3 are also represented in tabular form in Table I. The columns are labeled with the headings "Res", "Position", and Roman Numerals I-XIV. The column headings refer to the following features of the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 3, and Table I: "Res": amino acid residue of SEQ ID NO:2 and Figures 1A and 1B; "Position": position of the corresponding residue within SEQ ID NO:2 and Figures 1A and 1B; I: Alpha, Regions - Garnier-Robson; II: Alpha, Regions - Chou-Fasman; III: Beta, Regions - Garnier-Robson; IV: Beta, Regions - Chou-Fasman; V: Turn, Regions - Garnier-Robson; VI: Turn, Regions - Chou-Fasman; VII: Coil, Regions -

Garnier-Robson; VIII: Hydrophilicity Plot - Kyte-Doolittle; IX: Hydrophobicity Plot - Hopp-Woods; X: Alpha, Amphipathic Regions - Eisenberg; XI: Beta, Amphipathic Regions - Eisenberg; XII: Flexible Regions - Karplus-Schulz; XIII: Antigenic Index - Jameson-Wolf; and XIV: Surface Probability Plot - Emini.

[0121] Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C show the alignment of the BLyS nucleotide sequence determined from the human cDNA deposited in ATCC No. 97768 with related human cDNA clones of the invention which have been designated HSOAD55 (SEQ ID NO:7), HSLAH84 (SEQ ID NO:8) and HLTM08 (SEQ ID NO:9).

[0122] Figures 5A and 5B shows the nucleotide (SEQ ID NO:18) and deduced amino acid (SEQ ID NO:19) sequences of the BLySSV protein. Amino acids 1 to 46 represent the predicted intracellular domain, amino acids 47 to 72 the predicted transmembrane domain (the double-underlined sequence), and amino acids 73 to 266, the predicted extracellular domain (the remaining sequence). Potential asparagine-linked glycosylation sites are marked in Figures 5A and 5B with a bolded asparagine symbol (N) in the BLySSV amino acid sequence and a bolded pound sign (#) above the first nucleotide encoding that asparagine residue in the BLySSV nucleotide sequence. Potential N-linked glycosylation sequences are found at the following locations in the BLySSV amino acid sequence: N-124 through Q-127 (N-124, S-125, S-126, Q-127) and N-223 through C-226 (N-223, N-224, S-225, C-226). Antigenic polypeptides include from about Pro-32 to about Leu-47, from about Glu-116 to about Ser-143, from about Phe-153 to about Tyr-173, from about Pro-218 to about Tyr-227, from about Ala-232 to about Gln-241; from about Ile-244 to about Ala-249; and from about Ser-252 to about Val-257 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:19.

[0123] Regions of high identity between BLyS, BLySSV, TNF-alpha, TNF-beta, LT-beta, and the closely related Fas Ligand (an alignment of these sequences is presented in Figure 2) are underlined in Figures 1A and 1B. These conserved regions (of BLyS and BLySSV) are labeled as Conserved Domain (CD)-I, CD-II, CD-III, CD-V, CD-VI, CD-VII, CD-VIII, CD-IX, CD-X, and CD-XI in Figures 5A and 5B. BLySSV does not contain the sequence of CD-IV described in the legend of Figures 1A and 1B.

[0124] An additional alignment of the BLyS polypeptide sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) with APRIL, TNF alpha, and LT alpha is presented in Figures 7A-1 and 7A-2. In Figures

7A-1 and 7A-2, beta sheet regions are indicated as described below in the legend to Figures 7A-1 and 7A-2.

[0125] Figure 6 shows an analysis of the BLySSV amino acid sequence. Alpha, beta, turn and coil regions; hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity; amphipathic regions; flexible regions; antigenic index and surface probability are shown, as predicted for the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:19 using the default parameters of the recited computer programs. The location of the highly antigenic regions of the BLyS protein, i.e., regions from which epitope-bearing peptides of the invention may be obtained is indicated in the "Antigenic Index - Jameson-Wolf" graph. Antigenic polypeptides include, but are not limited to, a polypeptide comprising amino acid residues from about Pro-32 to about Leu-47, from about Glu-116 to about Ser-143, from about Phe-153 to about Tyr-173, from about Pro-218 to about Tyr-227, from about Ser-252 to about Thr-258, from about Ala-232 to about Gln-241; from about Ile-244 to about Ala-249; and from about Ser-252 to about Val-257, of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:19.

[0126] The data shown in Figure 6 can be easily represented in tabular format similar to the data shown in Table I. Such a tabular representation of the exact data disclosed in Figure 6 can be generated using the MegAlign component of the DNA\*STAR computer sequence analysis package set on default parameters. This is the identical program that was used to generate Figures 3 and 6 of the present application.

[0127] **Figures 7A-1 and 7A-2.** The amino-acid sequence of BLyS and alignment of its predicted ligand-binding domain with those of APRIL, TNF-alpha, and LT-alpha (specifically, amino acid residues 115-250 of the human APRIL polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:20; GenBank Accession No. AF046888 (nucleotide) and AAC6132 (protein)), amino acid residues 88-233 of TNF alpha (SEQ ID NO:3; GenBank Accession No. Z15026), and LT alpha ((also designated TNF-beta) amino acid residues 62-205 of SEQ ID NO:4; GenBank Accession No. Z15026)). The predicted membrane-spanning region of BLyS is indicated and the site of cleavage of BLyS is depicted with an arrow. Sequences overlaid with lines (A thru H) represent predicted beta-pleated sheet regions.

[0128] **Figure 7B.** Expression of BLyS mRNA. Northern hybridization analysis was performed using the BLyS orf as a probe on blots of poly (A)+ RNA (Clonetech) from a spectrum of human tissue types and a selection of cancer cell lines. A 2.6 kb BLyS

mRNA was detected at high levels in placenta, heart, lung, fetal liver, thymus, and pancreas. The 2.6 kb BLyS mRNA was also detected in HL-60 and K562 cell lines.

[0129] **Figures 8A, 8B and 8C.** BLyS expression increases following activation of human monocytes by IFN-gamma. **Figures 8A and 8B.** Flow cytometric analysis of Neutrokinne-alpa protein expression on *in vitro* cultured monocytes. Purified monocytes were cultured for 3 days in presence or absence of IFN-gamma (100 U/ml). Cells were then stained with a BLyS-specific mAb (2E5) (solid lines) or an isotype-matched control (IgG1) (dashed lines). Comparable results were obtained with monocytes purified from three different donors in three independent experiments. **Figure 8C.** BLyS-specific TaqMan primers were prepared and used to assess the relative BLyS mRNA expression levels in unstimulated and IFN-gamma (100 U/mL) treated monocytes. Nucleotide sequences of the TaqMan primers are as follows: (a) Probe: 5'-CCA CCA GCT CCA GGA GAA GGC AAC TC-3' (SEQ ID NO:24); (b) 5' amplification primer: 5'-ACC GCG GGA CTG AAA ATC T-3' (SEQ ID NO:25); and (c) 3' amplification primer: 5'-CAC GCT TAT TTC TGC TGT TCT GA-3' (SEQ ID NO:26).

[0130] **Figures 9A and 9B.** BLyS is a potent B lymphocyte stimulator. **Figure 9A.** The biological activity of BLyS was assessed in a standard B-lymphocyte co-stimulation assay utilizing *Staphylococcus aureus cowan 1* SAC as the priming agent. SAC alone yielded background counts of 1427 +/- 316. Values are reported as mean +/- standard deviation of triplicate wells. Similar results were obtained using recombinant BLyS purified from stable CHO transfecants and transiently transfected HEK 293T cells. **Figure 9B.** Proliferation of tonsillar B cells with BLyS and co-stimulation with anti-IgM. The bioassay was performed as described for SAC with the exception that individual wells were pre-coated with goat anti-human IgM antibody at 10 micrograms/mL in PBS.

[0131] **Figures 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, 10E, 10F and 10G.** BLyS receptor expression among normal human peripheral blood mononuclear cells and tumor cell lines. **Figures 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D and 10E.** Human peripheral blood nucleated cells were obtained from normal volunteers and isolated by density gradient centrifugation. Cells were stained with biotinylated BLyS followed by PE-conjugated streptavidin and FITC or PerCP coupled mAbs specific for CD3, CD20, CD14, CD56, and CD66b. Cells were analyzed on a Becton Dickinson FACScan using the CellQuest software. Data represent one of four

independent experiments. **Figures 10F and 10G.** BLyS binding to histiocytic cell line U-937 and the myeloma line IM-9.

[0132] **Figures 11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 11E, and 11F.** *In vivo* effects of BLyS administration in BALB/cAnNCR mice. **Figure 11A.** Formalin-fixed spleens were paraffin embedded and 5 micrometer sections stained with hematoxylin and eosin (upper panels). The lower panels are sections taken from the same animals stained with anti-CD45R(B220) mAb and developed with horseradish-peroxidase coupled rabbit anti-rat Ig (mouse adsorbed) and the substrate diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride (DAB). Slides were counter-stained with Mayer's hematoxylin. CD45R(B220) expressing cells appear brown. **Figures 11B and 11C.** Flow cytometric analyses of normal (left panel) and BLyS-treated (right panel) stained with PE-CD45R(B220) and FITC-ThB (Ly6D). **Figures 11D, 11E, and 11F.** Serum IgM, IgG, and IgA levels in normal and BLyS treated mice.

#### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

[0133] The present invention provides methods and compositions for using heteromultimeric complexes, e.g. heterodimers, heterotrimers, heterotetramers etc., of TNF ligand family members. The present invention provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimers, of known TNF ligand family member polypeptides, including, for example, those having the amino acid sequences SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42, as described in Table 1. As noted above, TNF ligand family member polypeptides are thought to play roles in cytotoxicity, necrosis, apoptosis, costimulation, proliferation, lymph node formation, immunoglobulin class switching, differentiation, antiviral activity, and regulation of adhesion molecules and other cytokines and growth factors. The present invention further provides methods of using the compositions of the present invention in the detection, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and/or prevention of disease associated with any of the above mentioned processes including, for example, cytotoxicity, necrosis, apoptosis, costimulation, proliferation, lymph node formation, immunoglobulin class switching, differentiation, antiviral activity, and regulation of adhesion molecules and other cytokines and growth factors.

[0134] While the invention is described for illustrative purposes with respect to TNF ligand sequences contained in SEQ ID NOs:1-42, other forms of the TNF ligand family members known in the art may also be used in accordance with the invention as described herein.

#### ***NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES***

[0135] By "nucleotide sequence" of a nucleic acid molecule or polynucleotide is intended, for a DNA molecule or polynucleotide, a sequence of deoxyribonucleotides, and for an RNA molecule or polynucleotide, the corresponding sequence of ribonucleotides (A, G, C and U), where each thymidine deoxyribonucleotide (T) in the specified deoxyribonucleotide sequence is replaced by the ribonucleotide uridine (U).

[0136] Using the information provided herein, such as, for example, the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, and 41, a nucleic acid molecule of the present invention encoding a TNF ligand family member polypeptide may be obtained using standard cloning and screening procedures, such as those for cloning cDNAs using mRNA as starting material. For example, using the nucleotide information provided, a nucleic acid molecule of the present invention encoding a TNF ligand family member polypeptide may be obtained using standard cloning and screening procedures, such as those for cloning cDNAs using mRNA as starting material. Illustrative of the invention, the nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO:31 was discovered in a cDNA library derived from primary dendritic cells.

[0137] The present invention provides, for example, one nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:1, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide Lymphotoxin-alpha of SEQ ID NO:2, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The Lymphotoxin-alpha open reading frame (nucleotides 80 to about 697 of SEQ ID NO:1) encodes a protein of about 205 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 34 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 34 of SEQ ID NO:2), a predicted extracellular domain of about 171 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 35 to about 205 of SEQ ID NO:2), and a predicted molecular weight of about 22.5 kDa.

[0138] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:3, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide TNF-alpha of SEQ ID NO:4, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The TNF-alpha open reading frame (nucleotides 153 to about 854 of SEQ ID NO:3) encodes a protein of about 233 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 76 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 76 of SEQ ID NO:4), a predicted extracellular domain of about 157 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 77 to about 233 of SEQ ID NO:4), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0139] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:5, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide Lymphotoxin-beta of SEQ ID NO:6, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The Lymphotoxin-beta open reading frame (nucleotides 9 to about 743 of SEQ ID NO:5) encodes a protein of about 244 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 48 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 48 of SEQ ID NO:6), a predicted extracellular domain of about 196 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 49 to about 244 of SEQ ID NO:6), and a predicted molecular weight of about 25 kDa.

[0140] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:7, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide OX-40L of SEQ ID NO:8, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The OX-40L open reading frame (nucleotides 37 to about 588 of SEQ ID NO:7) encodes a protein of about 183 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 23 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 23 of SEQ ID NO:8), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 27 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 24 to about 50 of SEQ ID NO:8), a predicted extracellular domain of about 133 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 51 to about 183 of SEQ ID NO:8), and a predicted molecular weight of about 21 kDa.

[0141] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:9, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family

member polypeptide CD40L of SEQ ID NO:10, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The CD40L open reading frame (nucleotides 46 to about 831 of SEQ ID NO:9) encodes a protein of about 261 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 22 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 22 of SEQ ID NO:10), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 24 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 23 to about 46 of SEQ ID NO:10), a predicted extracellular domain of about 215 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 47 to about 261 of SEQ ID NO:10), and a predicted molecular weight of about 29 kDa.

[0142] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:11, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide FasL of SEQ ID NO:12, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The FasL open reading frame (nucleotides 65 to about 910 of SEQ ID NO:11) encodes a protein of about 281 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 79 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 79 of SEQ ID NO:12), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 23 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 80 to about 102 of SEQ ID NO:12), a predicted extracellular domain of about 179 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 103 to about 281 of SEQ ID NO:12), and a predicted molecular weight of about 31 kDa.

[0143] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:13, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide CD70 of SEQ ID NO:14, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The CD70 open reading frame (nucleotides 151 to about 732 of SEQ ID NO:13) encodes a protein of about 193 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 20 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 20 of SEQ ID NO:14), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 18 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 21 to about 38 of SEQ ID NO:14), a predicted extracellular domain of about 155 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 39 to about 193 of SEQ ID NO:14), and a predicted molecular weight of about 21 kDa.

[0144] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:15, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide CD30L of SEQ ID NO:16, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The CD30L open reading frame (nucleotides 115 to about 819 of SEQ ID NO:15) encodes a protein of about 234 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 37 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 37 of SEQ ID NO:16), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 25 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 38 to about 62 of SEQ ID NO:16), a predicted extracellular domain of about 172 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 63 to about 234 of SEQ ID NO:16), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0145] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:17, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide 4-1BB-L of SEQ ID NO:18, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The 4-1BB-L open reading frame (nucleotides 4 to about 768 of SEQ ID NO:17) encodes a protein of about 254 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 25 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 25 of SEQ ID NO:18), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 23 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 26 to about 48 of SEQ ID NO:18), a predicted extracellular domain of about 206 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 49 to about 254 of SEQ ID NO:18), and a predicted molecular weight of about 27 kDa.

[0146] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:19, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide TRAIL of SEQ ID NO:20, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The TRAIL open reading frame (nucleotides 88 to about 933 of SEQ ID NO:19) encodes a protein of about 281 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 17 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 17 of SEQ ID NO:20), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 21 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 18 to about 38 of SEQ ID NO:20), a predicted extracellular domain of about 243

amino acids (amino acid residues from about 39 to about 281 of SEQ ID NO:20), and a predicted molecular weight of about 33 kDa.

[0147] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:21, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide RANKL of SEQ ID NO:22, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The RANKL open reading frame (nucleotides 185 to about 1138 of SEQ ID NO:21) encodes a protein of about 317 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 47 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 47 of SEQ ID NO:22), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 21 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 48 to about 68 of SEQ ID NO:22), a predicted extracellular domain of about 249 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 69 to about 317 of SEQ ID NO:22), and a predicted molecular weight of about 35 kDa.

[0148] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:23, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide TWEAK of SEQ ID NO:24, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The TWEAK open reading frame (nucleotides 18 to about 767 of SEQ ID NO:23) encodes a protein of about 249 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 40 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 40 of SEQ ID NO:24), a predicted extracellular domain of about 209 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 41 to about 249 of SEQ ID NO:24), and a predicted molecular weight of about 27 kDa.

[0149] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:25, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide APRIL of SEQ ID NO:26, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The APRIL open reading frame (nucleotides 282 to about 1034 of SEQ ID NO:25) encodes a protein of about 250 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 49 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 49 of SEQ ID NO:26), a predicted extracellular domain of about 201 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 50 to about 250 of SEQ ID NO:26), a predicted mature secreted domain of about 146 amino

acids (amino acid residues from about 105 to about 250 of SEQ ID NO:26), and a predicted molecular weight of about 27 kDa.

[0150] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:27, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide APRIL-SV of SEQ ID NO:28, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The APRIL-SV open reading frame (nucleotides 108 to about 812 of SEQ ID NO:27) encodes a protein of about 234 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 104 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 104 of SEQ ID NO:28), a predicted extracellular domain of about 130 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 105 to about 234 of SEQ ID NO:28), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0151] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:29, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide BLyS of SEQ ID NO:30, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The BLyS open reading frame (nucleotides 1 to about 858 of SEQ ID NO:29) encodes a protein of about 285 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 72 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 72 of SEQ ID NO:30), a predicted extracellular domain of about 213 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 73 to about 285 of SEQ ID NO:30), and a predicted molecular weight of about 31 kDa.

[0152] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:31, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide BLyS-SV of SEQ ID NO:32, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The BLyS-SV open reading frame (nucleotides 1 to about 798 of SEQ ID NO:31) encodes a protein of about 266 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 72 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 72 of SEQ ID NO:32), a predicted extracellular domain of about 194 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 73 to about 266 of SEQ ID NO:32), and a predicted molecular weight of about 29 kDa.

[0153] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:33, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family

member polypeptide LIGHT of SEQ ID NO:34, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The LIGHT open reading frame (nucleotides 49 to about 771 of SEQ ID NO:33) encodes a protein of about 240 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 37 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 37 of SEQ ID NO:34), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 21 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 38 to about 58 of SEQ ID NO:34), a predicted extracellular domain of about 162 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 59 to about 240 of SEQ ID NO:34), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0154] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:35, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide VEGI of SEQ ID NO:36, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The VEGI open reading frame (nucleotides 1124 to about 1648 of SEQ ID NO:35) encodes a protein of about 174 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 27 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 27 of SEQ ID NO:36), a predicted extracellular domain of about 147 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 28 to about 174 of SEQ ID NO:36), and a predicted molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

[0155] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:37, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide VEGI-SV of SEQ ID NO:38, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The VEGI-SV open reading frame (nucleotides 1 to about 756 of SEQ ID NO:37) encodes a protein of about 251 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 59 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 59 of SEQ ID NO:38), a predicted extracellular domain of about 192 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 60 to about 251 of SEQ ID NO:38), and a predicted molecular weight of about 28 kDa.

[0156] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:39, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide AITRL of SEQ ID NO:40, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The VEGI-SV open reading frame (nucleotides 1 to about 534 of SEQ ID NO:39) encodes a protein

of about 177 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 43 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 43 of SEQ ID NO:40), a predicted extracellular domain of about 126 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 44 to about 177 of SEQ ID NO:40), and a predicted molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

[0157] The present invention provides, for example, another nucleic acid molecule, SEQ ID NO:41, comprising an open reading frame which encodes the TNF ligand family member polypeptide EDA of SEQ ID NO:42, which may comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes with other TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The EDA open reading frame (nucleotides 243 to about 1418 of SEQ ID NO:41) encodes a protein of about 391 amino acid residues, which comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 43 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 43 of SEQ ID NO:42), a predicted extracellular domain of about 329 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 63 to about 391 of SEQ ID NO:42), and a predicted molecular weight of about 41 kDa.

[0158] It will be appreciated that, the polypeptide domains described herein have been predicted by computer analysis, and accordingly, that depending on the analytical criteria used for identifying various functional domains, the exact "address" of the extracellular, intracellular and transmembrane domains and signal peptides of the TNF ligand family member polypeptides may differ slightly. For example, the exact location of the BLyS and BLyS-SV extracellular domains described above, may vary slightly (e.g., the address may "shift" by about 1 to about 20 residues, more likely about 1 to about 5 residues) depending on the criteria used to define the domain. In any event, as discussed further below, the invention further provides polypeptides having various residues deleted from the N-terminus and/or C-terminus of the complete polypeptides, including polypeptides lacking one or more amino acids from the N-termini of the extracellular domains described herein, which constitute soluble forms of the extracellular domains of the TNF ligand family member polypeptides.

[0159] Nucleic acid molecules and polynucleotides of the present invention may be in the form of RNA, such as mRNA, or in the form of DNA, including, for instance, cDNA and genomic DNA obtained by cloning or produced synthetically. The DNA may be double-stranded or single-stranded. Single-stranded DNA or RNA may be the coding strand, also known as the sense strand, or it may be the non-coding strand, also referred to as the anti-sense strand.

[0160] By "isolated" nucleic acid molecule(s) is intended a nucleic acid molecule (DNA or RNA), which has been removed from its native environment. For example, recombinant DNA molecules contained in a vector are considered isolated for the purposes of the present invention. Further examples of isolated DNA molecules include recombinant DNA molecules maintained in heterologous host cells or purified (partially or substantially) DNA molecules in solution. Isolated RNA molecules include *in vivo* or *in vitro* RNA transcripts of the DNA molecules of the present invention. However, a nucleic acid contained in a clone that is a member of a library (e.g., a genomic or cDNA library) that has not been isolated from other members of the library (e.g., in the form of a homogeneous solution containing the clone and other members of the library) or a chromosome isolated or removed from a cell or a cell lysate (e.g., a "chromosome spread", as in a karyotype), is not "isolated" for the purposes of this invention. As discussed further herein, isolated nucleic acid molecules according to the present invention may be produced naturally, recombinantly, or synthetically.

[0161] The present invention provides isolated nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, a sequence encoding the Lymphotoxin -alpha polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:1; a sequence encoding the TNF-alpha polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:3; a sequence encoding the Lymphotoxin-beta polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:5; a sequence encoding the OX-40L polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:7; a sequence encoding the CD40L polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:9; a sequence encoding the FasL polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:11; a sequence encoding the CD70 polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:13; a sequence encoding the CD30LG polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:15; a sequence encoding the 4-1BB-L polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:17; a sequence encoding the TRAIL polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:19; a sequence encoding the RANKL polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:21; a sequence encoding the TWEAK polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:23; a sequence encoding the APRIL polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:25; a sequence

encoding the APRIL-SV polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:27; a sequence encoding the BLyS polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:29; a sequence encoding the BLyS-SV polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:31; a sequence encoding the LIGHT polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:33; a sequence encoding the VEGI polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:35; a sequence encoding the VEGI-SV polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:37; a sequence encoding the AITRL polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:39; or a sequence encoding the EDA polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:41.

[0162] Isolated nucleic acid molecules of the present invention include, for example, DNA molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of, an open reading frame (ORF) with an initiation codon at positions 80-82 of SEQ ID NO:1; positions 153-155 of SEQ ID NO:3; positions 9-11 of SEQ ID NO:5; positions 37-39 of SEQ ID NO:7; positions 46-48 of SEQ ID NO:9; positions 65-67 of SEQ ID NO:11; positions 151-153 of SEQ ID NO:13; positions 115-117 of SEQ ID NO:15; positions 4-6 of SEQ ID NO:17; positions 88-90 of SEQ ID NO:19; positions 185-187 of SEQ ID NO:21; positions 18-20 of SEQ ID NO:23; positions 282-284 of SEQ ID NO:25; positions 108-110 of SEQ ID NO:27; positions 1-3 of SEQ ID NO:29; positions 1-3 of SEQ ID NO:31; positions 49-51 of SEQ ID NO:33; positions 1124-1126 of SEQ ID NO:35; positions 1-3 of SEQ ID NO:37; positions 1-3 of SEQ ID NO:39; or positions 243-245 of SEQ ID NO:41.

[0163] In addition, isolated nucleic acid molecules of the invention include, for example, DNA molecules which comprise, or alternatively consist of, a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:1, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the Lymphotoxin-alpha protein of SEQ ID NO:2; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:3, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the TNF-alpha protein of SEQ ID NO:4; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:5, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the Lymphotoxin-beta protein of SEQ ID NO:6; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:7, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the OX-40L protein of SEQ ID NO:8; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:9, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the CD40L protein of

SEQ ID NO:10; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:11, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the FasL protein of SEQ ID NO:12; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:13, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the CD70 protein of SEQ ID NO:14; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:15, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the CD30LG protein of SEQ ID NO:16; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:17, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the 4-1BB-L protein of SEQ ID NO:18; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:19, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the TRAIL protein of SEQ ID NO:20; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:21, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the RANKL protein of SEQ ID NO:22; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:23, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the TWEAK protein of SEQ ID NO:24; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:25, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the APRIL protein of SEQ ID NO:26; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:27, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the APRIL-SV protein of SEQ ID NO:28; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:29, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the BLyS protein of SEQ ID NO:30; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:31, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the BLyS-SV protein of SEQ ID NO:32; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:33, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the LIGHT protein of SEQ ID NO:34; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:35, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the VEGI protein of SEQ ID NO:36; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:37, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the VEGI-SV protein of SEQ ID NO:38; a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:39, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the AITRL protein of SEQ ID NO:40; or a sequence substantially different from SEQ ID NO:41, but which due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encodes the EDA protein of SEQ ID NO:42. Of course, the genetic code is well known in the art. Thus, it would be routine for one skilled in the art to generate the degenerate variants described above.

[0164] In another embodiment, the invention provides isolated nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, a sequence encoding a polypeptide sequence that is at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the Lymphotoxin-alpha amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the TNF-alpha amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the Lymphotoxin-beta amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the OX-40L amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the CD40L amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the FasL amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:12; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the CD70 amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:14; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the CD30LG amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:16; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the 4-1BB-L amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:18; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the TRAIL amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:20; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the RANKL amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:22; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the TWEAK amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:24; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the APRIL amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:26; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the APRIL-SV amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:28; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the BLyS amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:30; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the BLyS-SV amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:32; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the LIGHT amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:34; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the VEGI amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:36; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the VEGI-SV amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:38; at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the AITRL amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:40;

or at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the EDA amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:42.

[0165] Preferably, this nucleic acid molecule comprises, or alternatively consists of, for example, a sequence encoding the extracellular domain, the mature or soluble polypeptide sequence of the polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:1; SEQ ID NO:3; SEQ ID NO:5; SEQ ID NO:7; SEQ ID NO:9; SEQ ID NO:11; SEQ ID NO:13; SEQ ID NO:15; SEQ ID NO:17; SEQ ID NO:19; SEQ ID NO:21; SEQ ID NO:23; SEQ ID NO:25; SEQ ID NO:27; SEQ ID NO:29; SEQ ID NO:31; SEQ ID NO:33; SEQ ID NO:35; SEQ ID NO:37; SEQ ID NO:39; or SEQ ID NO:41.

[0166] The invention further provides isolated nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of, nucleic acid molecules having a sequence complementary to, for example, any one of the above described sequences.

[0167] The present invention is further directed to fragments of nucleic acid molecules (i.e. polynucleotides) encoding TNF ligand family members, including, for example, those polynucleotides described herein. By a fragment of a nucleic acid molecule having, for example, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:7, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:9, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:11, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:12, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:13, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:14, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:15, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:16, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:17, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:18, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:19, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:20, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:21, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:22, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:23, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:24, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:25, a

nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:26, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:27, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:28, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:29, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:30, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:31, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:32, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:33, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:34, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:35, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:36, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:37, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:38, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:39, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:40, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:41, or a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:42, or the complementary strand thereto, is intended fragments at least 15 nt, and more preferably at least 20 nt or at least 25 nt, still more preferably at least 30 nt, and even more preferably, at least 40, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 325, 350, 375, 400, 450, or 500 nt in length. These fragments have numerous uses which include, but are not limited to, diagnostic probes and primers as discussed herein. Of course, larger fragments, such as those of 501-1500 nt in length are also useful according to the present invention.

[0168] Preferred nucleic acid fragments of the present invention include, for example, nucleic acid molecules encoding polypeptides comprising, or alternatively, consisting of, portions of the TNF ligand family member polypeptides as identified in Table 1, which comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, and are described in more detail below. Polypeptides encoded by these polynucleotide fragments are also encompassed by the invention.

[0169] Also by a fragment of a nucleic acid molecule having, for example, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:7, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:9, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, the nucleotide

sequence of SEQ ID NO:11, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:12, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:13, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:14, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:15, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:16, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:17, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:18, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:19, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:20, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:21, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:22, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:23, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:24, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:25, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:26, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:27, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:28, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:29, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:30, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:31, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:32, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:33, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:34, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:35, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:36, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:37, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:38, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:39, a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:40, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:41, or a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:42, or the complementary strands thereof, is intended fragments at least 15 nt, and more preferably at least 20 nt or at least 25 nt, still more preferably at least 30 nt, and even more preferably, at least 40, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 325, 350, 375, 400, 450, or 500 nt in length. These fragments have numerous uses which include, but are not limited to, diagnostic probes and primers as discussed herein. Of course, larger fragments, such as those of 501-1500 nt in length are also useful according to the present invention. Polypeptides encoded by these polynucleotide fragments are also encompassed by the invention.

[0170] Representative examples of TNF ligand family member polynucleotide fragments of the invention include, for example, fragments that comprise, or alternatively,

consist of, a sequence from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, and/or 1301 to 1325, of SEQ ID NO:1; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, and/or 1601 to 1643, of SEQ ID NO:3; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, and/or 851 to 894 of SEQ ID NO:5; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, 1601 to 1650, 1651 to 1700, 1701 to 1750, 1751 to 1800, 1801 to 1850, 1851 to 1900, 1901 to 1950, 1951 to 2000, 2001 to 2050, 2051 to 2100, 2101 to 2150, 2151 to 2200, 2201 to 2250, 2251 to 2300, 2301 to 2350, 2351 to 2400, 2401 to 2450, 2451 to 2500, 2501 to 2550, 2551 to 2600, 2601 to 2650, 2651 to 2700, 2701 to 2750, 2751 to 2800, 2801 to 2850, 2851 to 2900, 2901 to 2950, 2951 to 3000, 3001 to 3050, 3051 to 3100, 3101 to 3150, 3151 to 3200, 3201 to 3250, 3251 to 3300, 3301 to 3350 and/or 3351 to 3362, of SEQ ID NO:7; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, 1601 to 1650, 1651 to 1700, 1701 to 1750, 1751 to 1800, and/or 1801 to 1803 of SEQ ID NO:9; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to

750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, and/or 951 to 972 of SEQ ID NO:11; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, and/or 901 to 926 of SEQ ID NO:13; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, 1601 to 1650, 1651 to 1700, 1701 to 1750, 1751 to 1800, 1801 to 1850, 1851 to 1900, and/or 1901 to 1906 of SEQ ID NO:15; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, and/or 1601 to 1619 of SEQ ID NO:17; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, and/or 1601 to 1769 of SEQ ID NO:19; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, 1601 to 1650, 1651 to 1700, 1701 to 1750, and/or 1751 to 1769 of SEQ ID NO:21; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, 1601 to 1650, 1651 to 1700, 1701 to 1750, 1751 to 1800, 1801 to 1850, 1851 to 1900, 1901 to 1950, 1951 to 2000, 2001 to 2050, 2051 to 2100, 2101 to 2150, 2151 to 2200, 2201 to 2250, and/or 2251 to 2271 of SEQ ID NO:21; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to

1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, and/or 1301 to 1306 of SEQ ID NO:23; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, and/or 1301 to 1348 of SEQ ID NO:25; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, and/or 1101 to 1126 of SEQ ID NO:27; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, and/or 800 to 858 of SEQ ID NO:29; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, and/or 1101 to 1126 of SEQ ID NO:31; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, and/or 1151 to 1169 of SEQ ID NO:33; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, 1601 to 1650, 1651 to 1700, 1701 to 1750, 1751 to 1800, 1801 to 1850, 1851 to 1900, 1901 to 1950, 1951 to 2000, 2001 to 2050, 2051 to 2100, 2101 to 2150, 2151 to 2200, 2201 to 2250, 2251 to 2300, 2301 to 2350, 2351 to 2400, 2401 to 2450, 2451 to 2500, 2501 to 2550, 2551 to 2600, 2601 to 2650, 2651 to 2700, 2701 to 2750, and/or 2751 to 2785 of SEQ ID NO:35; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, and/or 1101 to 1116 of SEQ ID NO:37; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251

to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, and/or 501 to 534 of SEQ ID NO:39; from about nucleotide 1 to 50, 51 to 100, 101 to 146, 147 to 200, 201 to 250, 251 to 300, 301 to 350, 351 to 400, 401 to 450, 451 to 500, 501 to 550, 551 to 600, 600 to 650, 651 to 700, 701 to 750, 751 to 800, 800 to 850, 851 to 900, 901 to 950, 951 to 1000, 1001 to 1050, 1051 to 1100, 1101 to 1150, 1151 to 1200, 1201 to 1250, 1251 to 1300, 1301 to 1350, 1351 to 1400, 1401 to 1450, 1451 to 1500, 1501 to 1550, 1551 to 1600, 1601 to 1650, 1651 to 1700, 1701 to 1750, 1751 to 1800, 1801 to 1850, 1851 to 1900, 1901 to 1950, 1951 to 2000, 2001 to 2050, 2051 to 2100, 2101 to 2150, 2151 to 2200, 2201 to 2250, 2251 to 2300, 2301 to 2350, 2351 to 2400, 2401 to 2450, 2451 to 2500, 2501 to 2550, 2551 to 2600, 2601 to 2650, 2651 to 2700, 2701 to 2750, 2751 to 2800, 2801 to 2850, 2851 to 2900, 2901 to 2950, 2951 to 3000, 3001 to 3050, 3051 to 3100, 3101 to 3150, 3151 to 3200, 3201 to 3250, 3251 to 3300, 3301 to 3350, 3351 to 3400, 3401 to 3450, 3451 to 3500, 3501 to 3550, 3551 to 3600, 3601 to 3650, 3651 to 3700, 3701 to 3750, 3751 to 3800, 3801 to 3850, 3851 to 3900, 3901 to 3950, 3951 to 4000, 4001 to 4050, 4051 to 4100, 4101 to 4150, 4151 to 4200, 4201 to 4250, 4251 to 4300, 4301 to 4350, 4351 to 4400, 4401 to 4450, 4451 to 4500, 4501 to 4550, 4551 to 4600, 4601 to 4650, 4651 to 4700, 4701 to 4750, 4751 to 4800, 4801 to 4850, 4851 to 4900, 4901 to 4950, 4951 to 5000, 5001 to 5050, 5051 to 5100, 5101 to 5150, 5151 to 5200, and/or 5251 to 5307, of SEQ ID NO:41; or the complementary strands thereto. In this context "about" includes the particularly recited ranges, and ranges that are larger or smaller by several (5, 4, 3, 2, or 1) nucleotides, at either terminus or at both termini.

[0171] Preferably, the polynucleotide fragments of the invention encode a polypeptide which comprises a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex demonstrating functional activity in binding and/or activating one or more TNF receptor family members. By demonstrating "functional activity" is meant, a polypeptide or heteromultimeric polypeptide complex capable of displaying one or more known functional activities associated with a full-length and/or secreted TNF ligand polypeptides. Such functional activities include, but are not limited to, biological activity (e.g., ability to stimulate B cell proliferation, survival, differentiation, and/or activation), antigenicity (ability to bind or compete with a TNF ligand polypeptide for binding to an anti-TNF ligand antibody), immunogenicity (ability to generate antibody which binds to a TNF ligand polypeptide and/or a heteromultimeric complex of TNF ligand polypeptides), ability to bind to a TNF

receptor family member, and ability to stimulate a TNF receptor signalling cascade (e.g., to activate calcium-modulator and cyclophilin ligand ("CAML"), calcineurin, nuclear factor of activated T cells transcription factor ("NF-AT"), nuclear factor-kappa B ("NF-kappa B"), activator protein-1 (AP-1), SRF, extracellular-signal regulated kinase 1 (ERK-1), polo like kinases (PLK), ELF-1, high mobility group I (HMG-I), and/or high mobility group Y (HMG-Y)).

[0172] In additional specific embodiments, the polynucleotide fragments of the invention encode a polypeptide comprising, or alternatively, consisting of the predicted signal peptide, the predicted intracellular domain, the predicted transmembrane domain, the predicted extracellular domain, or the predicted TNF conserved domain of TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, those encoded by SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, and 41. In additional embodiments, the polynucleotide fragments of the invention encode a polypeptide comprising, or alternatively, consisting of any combination of 1, 2, 3, 4 or all 5 of the above recited domains from each encoded polypeptide. Polypeptides encoded by these polynucleotides are also encompassed by the invention.

[0173] In additional embodiments, the polynucleotides of the invention encode polypeptides comprising, or alternatively consisting of, functional attributes of TNF ligand family member polypeptides. Preferred embodiments of the invention in this regard include fragments that comprise, or alternatively consist of, alpha-helix and alpha-helix forming regions ("alpha-regions"), beta-sheet and beta-sheet forming regions ("beta-regions"), turn and turn-forming regions ("turn-regions"), coil and coil-forming regions ("coil-regions"), hydrophilic regions, hydrophobic regions, alpha amphipathic regions, beta amphipathic regions, flexible regions, surface-forming regions and high antigenic index regions of TNF ligand polypeptides.

[0174] Additional preferred nucleic acid fragments of the present invention include nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively, consisting of a sequence encoding one or more epitope-bearing portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides. Polypeptides encoded by these nucleic acid molecules are also encompassed by the invention. Polypeptide fragments which bear antigenic epitopes of the TNF ligand family members may be easily determined by one of skill in the art using analysis of the

Jameson-Wolf antigenic index. Methods for determining other such epitope-bearing portions of TNF ligands are described in detail below.

[0175] In specific embodiments, the polynucleotides of the invention are less than 100,000 kb, 50,000 kb, 10,000 kb, 1,000 kb, 500 kb, 400 kb, 350 kb, 300 kb, 250 kb, 200 kb, 175 kb, 150 kb, 125 kb, 100 kb, 75 kb, 50 kb, 40 kb, 30 kb, 25 kb, 20 kb, 15 kb, 10 kb, 7.5 kb, or 5 kb in length.

[0176] In further embodiments, polynucleotides of the invention comprise at least 15, at least 30, at least 50, at least 100, or at least 250, at least 500, or at least 1000 contiguous nucleotides of a TNF ligand family member polypeptide coding sequence, but consist of less than or equal to 1000 kb, 500 kb, 250 kb, 200 kb, 150 kb, 100 kb, 75 kb, 50 kb, 30 kb, 25 kb, 20 kb, 15 kb, 10 kb, or 5 kb of genomic DNA that flanks the 5' or 3' coding nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41. In further embodiments, polynucleotides of the invention comprise at least 15, at least 30, at least 50, at least 100, or at least 250, at least 500, or at least 1000 contiguous nucleotides of TNF ligand family member coding sequence, but do not comprise all or a portion of any TNF ligand family member intron. In another embodiment, the nucleic acid comprising a TNF ligand family member coding sequence does not contain coding sequences of a genomic flanking gene (i.e., 5' or 3' to the TNF ligand gene in the genome). In other embodiments, the polynucleotides of the invention do not contain the coding sequence of more than 1000, 500, 250, 100, 50, 25, 20, 15, 10, 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 genomic flanking gene(s).

[0177] In another embodiment, the invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent hybridization conditions to a portion of the polynucleotide in a nucleic acid molecule of the invention described above, for instance, the sequence complementary to the coding and/or noncoding sequence of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41, or fragments (such as, for example, the open reading frame or a fragment thereof) of these sequences, as described herein. By "stringent hybridization conditions" is intended overnight incubation at 42°C in a solution comprising: 50% formamide, 5x SSC (750 mM NaCl, 75 mM trisodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 µg/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA, followed by washing the filters in 0.1x SSC at about 65°C.

[0178] By a polynucleotide which hybridizes to a "portion" of a polynucleotide is intended a polynucleotide (either DNA or RNA) hybridizing to at least about 15 nucleotides (nt), and more preferably at least about 20 nt, still more preferably at least about 30 nt, and even more preferably about 30-70 (e.g., 40, 50, or 60) nucleotides, and even more preferably about any integer in the range of 30-70 or 80-150 nucleotides, or the entire length of the reference polynucleotide. These have uses, which include, but are not limited to, diagnostic probes and primers as discussed above and in more detail below. By a portion of a polynucleotide of "at least about 20 nt in length," for example, is intended to include the particularly recited ranges, larger or smaller by several (i.e. 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, or 0) amino acids, at either extreme or at both extremes of the nucleotide sequence of the reference polynucleotide (e.g., SEQ ID NO:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41). Of course, a polynucleotide which hybridizes only to a poly A sequence, or to a complementary stretch of T (or U) residues, would not be included in a polynucleotide of the invention used to hybridize to a portion of a nucleic acid of the invention, since such a polynucleotide would hybridize to any nucleic acid molecule containing a poly (A) stretch or the complement thereof (e.g., practically any double-stranded cDNA clone generated using oligo dT as a primer).

[0179] As indicated, nucleic acid molecules of the present invention which encode a TNF ligand family member polypeptide may include, but are not limited to, polynucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence of the respective extracellular domains of the polypeptides, by themselves; and the coding sequence for the extracellular domains of the respective polypeptides and additional sequences, such as those encoding the intracellular and transmembrane domain sequences, or a pre-, or pro- or prepro- protein sequence; the coding sequence of the respective extracellular domains of the polypeptides, with or without the aforementioned additional coding sequences.

[0180] Also encoded by nucleic acids of the invention are the above protein sequences together with additional, non-coding sequences, including for example, but not limited to, introns and non-coding 5' and 3' sequences, such as the transcribed, non-translated sequences that play a role in transcription, mRNA processing, including splicing and polyadenylation signals, for example, ribosome binding and stability of mRNA; an additional coding sequence which codes for additional amino acids, such as those which provide additional functionalities.

[0181] Thus, the sequence encoding the polypeptide may be fused to a marker sequence, such as a sequence encoding a peptide which facilitates purification of the fused polypeptide. In certain preferred embodiments of this embodiment of the invention, the marker amino acid sequence is a hexa-histidine peptide, such as the tag provided in a pQE vector (QIAGEN, Inc., 9259 Eton Avenue, Chatsworth, CA, 91311), among others, many of which are commercially available. As described in Gentz et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:821-824 (1989), for instance, hexa-histidine provides for convenient purification of the fusion protein. The "HA" tag is another peptide useful for purification which corresponds to an epitope derived from the influenza hemagglutinin protein, which has been described by Wilson et al., *Cell* 37: 767 (1984). As discussed below, other such fusion proteins include the BLyS or the BLySSV polypeptides fused to Fc at the N- or C-terminus.

[0182] The present invention further relates to variants of the nucleic acid molecules of the present invention, which encode portions, analogs or derivatives of TNF ligand polypeptides as described herein and including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42. Variants may occur naturally, such as a natural allelic variant. By an "allelic variant" is intended one of several alternate forms of a gene occupying a given locus on a chromosome of an organism. *Genes II*, Lewin, B., ed., John Wiley & Sons, New York (1985). Non-naturally occurring variants may be produced using art-known mutagenesis techniques, which include, but are not limited to oligonucleotide mediated mutagenesis, alanine scanning, PCR mutagenesis, site directed mutagenesis (see e.g., Carter et al., *Nucl. Acids Res.* 13:4331 (1986); and Zoller et al., *Nucl. Acids Res.* 10:6487 (1982)), cassette mutagenesis (see e.g., Wells et al., *Gene* 34:315 (1985)), restriction selection mutagenesis (see e.g., Wells et al., *Philos. Trans. R. Soc. London SerA* 317:415 (1986)).

[0183] Such variants include those produced by nucleotide substitutions, deletions or additions. The substitutions, deletions or additions may involve one or more nucleotides. The variants may be altered in coding regions, non-coding regions, or both. Alterations in the coding regions may produce conservative or non-conservative amino acid substitutions, deletions or additions. Especially preferred among these are silent substitutions, additions and deletions, which do not alter the properties and activities of the

TNF ligand family member polypeptides or portions thereof. Also especially preferred in this regard are conservative substitutions.

[0184] Additional embodiments of the invention are directed to isolated nucleic acid molecules comprising a polynucleotide which encodes the amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand polypeptide (e.g., a TNF ligand family member polypeptide fragment described herein) having an amino acid sequence which contains at least one conservative amino acid substitution, but not more than 50 conservative amino acid substitutions, even more preferably, not more than 40 conservative amino acid substitutions, still more preferably, not more than 30 conservative amino acid substitutions, and still even more preferably, not more than 20 conservative amino acid substitutions, 10-20 conservative amino acid substitutions, 5-10 conservative amino acid substitutions, 1-5 conservative amino acid substitutions, 3-5 conservative amino acid substitutions, or 1-3 conservative amino acid substitutions. Of course, in order of ever-increasing preference, it is highly preferable for a polynucleotide which encodes the amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand polypeptide to have an amino acid sequence which contains not more than 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 conservative amino acid substitutions.

[0185] Further embodiments include an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising, or alternatively consisting of, a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 80%, 85%, or 90% identical, and more preferably at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of: (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a TNF ligand family member polypeptide (e.g., SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42); (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a TNF ligand family member polypeptide (e.g., SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42), excepting the N-terminal methionine; (c) a fragment of the polypeptide of (b) having TNF ligand functional activity (e.g., antigenic or biological activity); (d) a nucleotide sequence encoding the predicted extracellular domain of a TNF ligand polypeptide (e.g., SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42); and (e) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) above. The present invention also encompasses the above polynucleotide sequences fused to a heterologous polynucleotide sequence. Polypeptides encoded by these polynucleotides and nucleic acid molecules are also encompassed by the invention.

[0186] Highly preferred embodiments of the invention are directed to nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of polynucleotides having nucleotide sequences at least 80%, 85%, 90% identical and more preferably at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99% or 100% identical to polynucleotide sequences encoding TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42. Preferred embodiments of the invention are directed to nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of polynucleotides having nucleotide sequences at least 90% identical to polynucleotide sequences encoding TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42. More preferred embodiments of the invention are directed to nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of polynucleotides having nucleotide sequences at least 95% identical to polynucleotide sequences encoding TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42. More preferred embodiments of the invention are directed to nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of polynucleotides having nucleotide sequences at least 96% identical to polynucleotide sequences encoding TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42.

[0187] Additionally, more preferred embodiments of the invention are directed to nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of polynucleotides having nucleotide sequences at least 97% identical to polynucleotide sequences encoding TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42. Additionally, more preferred embodiments of the invention are directed to nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of polynucleotides having nucleotide sequences at least 98% identical to polynucleotide sequences encoding TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42. Additionally, more preferred embodiments of the invention are directed to nucleic acid molecules comprising, or alternatively consisting of polynucleotides having nucleotide sequences at least 99% identical to polynucleotide

sequences encoding TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42.

[0188] A further embodiment of the invention relates to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide which encodes the amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand family member polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which contains at least one conservative amino acid substitution, but not more than 50 conservative amino acid substitutions, even more preferably, not more than 40 conservative amino acid substitutions, still more preferably not more than 30 conservative amino acid substitutions, and still even more preferably not more than 20 conservative amino acid substitutions. Of course, in order of ever-increasing preference, it is highly preferable for a polynucleotide which encodes the amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand polypeptide to have an amino acid sequence which contains not more than 7-10, 5-10, 3-7, 3-5, 2-5, 1-5, 1-3, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 conservative amino acid substitutions.

[0189] By a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least, for example, 95% "identical" to a reference nucleotide sequence encoding a TNF ligand polypeptide is intended that the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide is identical to the reference sequence except that the polynucleotide sequence may include up to five mismatches per each 100 nucleotides of the reference nucleotide sequence encoding the TNF ligand polypeptide. In other words, to obtain a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a reference nucleotide sequence, up to 5% of the nucleotides in the reference sequence may be deleted or substituted with another nucleotide, or a number of nucleotides up to 5% of the total nucleotides in the reference sequence may be inserted into the reference sequence. These mutations of the reference sequence may occur at the 5' or 3' terminal positions of the reference nucleotide sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among nucleotides in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence. The reference (query) sequence may be the entire nucleotide sequence encoding a TNF ligand family member polypeptide, or any TNF ligand polynucleotide fragment as described herein.

[0190] As a practical matter, whether any particular nucleic acid molecule is at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to, for instance, any TNF ligand polynucleotide such as, for example, the polynucleotides shown as SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7,

9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41, or fragments thereof, can be determined conventionally using known computer programs such as the Bestfit program (Wisconsin Sequence Analysis Package, Version 8 for Unix, Genetics Computer Group, University Research Park, 575 Science Drive, Madison, WI 53711). Bestfit uses the local homology algorithm of Smith and Waterman to find the best segment of homology between two sequences (*Advances in Applied Mathematics* 2:482-489 (1981)). When using Bestfit or any other sequence alignment program to determine whether a particular sequence is, for instance, 95% identical to a reference sequence according to the present invention, the parameters are set, of course, such that the percentage of identity is calculated over the full length of the reference nucleotide sequence and that gaps in homology of up to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in the reference sequence are allowed.

[0191] In a specific embodiment, the identity between a reference (query) sequence (a sequence of the present invention) and a subject sequence, also referred to as a global sequence alignment, is determined using the FASTDB computer program based on the algorithm of Brutlag and colleagues (*Comp. App. Biosci.* 6:237-245 (1990)). In a sequence alignment the query and subject sequences are both DNA sequences. An RNA sequence can be compared by converting U's to T's. The result of said global sequence alignment is in percent identity. Preferred parameters used in a FASTDB alignment of DNA sequences to calculate percent identity are: Matrix=Unitary, k-tuple=4, Mismatch Penalty=1, Joining Penalty=30, Randomization Group Length=0, Cutoff Score=1, Gap Penalty=5, Gap Size Penalty 0.05, Window Size=500 or the length of the subject nucleotide sequence, whichever is shorter. According to this embodiment, if the subject sequence is shorter than the query sequence because of 5' or 3' deletions, not because of internal deletions, a manual correction is made to the results to take into consideration the fact that the FASTDB program does not account for 5' and 3' truncations of the subject sequence when calculating percent identity. For subject sequences truncated at the 5' or 3' ends, relative to the query sequence, the percent identity is corrected by calculating the number of bases of the query sequence that are 5' and 3' of the subject sequence, which are not matched/aligned, as a percent of the total bases of the query sequence. A determination of whether a nucleotide is matched/aligned is determined by results of the FASTDB sequence alignment. This percentage is then subtracted from the percent

identity, calculated by the above FASTDB program using the specified parameters, to arrive at a final percent identity score. This corrected score is what is used for the purposes of this embodiment. Only bases outside the 5' and 3' bases of the subject sequence, as displayed by the FASTDB alignment, which are not matched/aligned with the query sequence, are calculated for the purposes of manually adjusting the percent identity score. For example, a 90 base subject sequence is aligned to a 100 base query sequence to determine percent identity. The deletions occur at the 5' end of the subject sequence and therefore, the FASTDB alignment does not show a matched/alignment of the first 10 bases at 5' end. The 10 unpaired bases represent 10% of the sequence (number of bases at the 5' and 3' ends not matched/total number of bases in the query sequence) so 10% is subtracted from the percent identity score calculated by the FASTDB program. If the remaining 90 bases were perfectly matched the final percent identity would be 90%. In another example, a 90 base subject sequence is compared with a 100 base query sequence. This time the deletions are internal deletions so that there are no bases on the 5' or 3' of the subject sequence which are not matched/aligned with the query. In this case the percent identity calculated by FASTDB is not manually corrected. Once again, only bases 5' and 3' of the subject sequence which are not matched/aligned with the query sequence are manually corrected for. No other manual corrections are made for the purposes of this embodiment.

[0192] Preferred embodiments of the present invention include nucleic acid molecules having sequences at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to the nucleic acid sequences disclosed herein, which encode polypeptides comprising heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes having TNF ligand functional activity (e.g., biological activity).

[0193] By "a polypeptide having TNF ligand functional activity" (e.g., biological activity), are intended polypeptides exhibiting activity similar, but not necessarily identical, to an activity of the extracellular domain or the full-length TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention, as measured in a particular functional assay (e.g., immunological or biological assay). For example, functional activity can be measured by the ability of a polypeptide sequence described herein to form multimers (e.g., homodimers and homotrimers) with full-length or the extracellular domain of TNF ligand family members. TNF ligand polypeptide functional activity can be also be measured by

determining the ability of a polypeptide of the invention to induce lymphocyte (e.g., B cell) proliferation, differentiation or activation and/or to extend B cell survival. These functional assays can be routinely performed using techniques described herein (e.g., see Example 6) and otherwise known in the art. Additionally, TNF ligand polypeptides of the present invention modulate cell proliferation, cytotoxicity, cell survival and cell death. An *in vitro* cell proliferation, cytotoxicity, cell survival, and cell death assay for measuring the effect of a protein on certain cells can be performed by using reagents well known and commonly available in the art for detecting cell replication and/or death. For instance, numerous such assays for TNF-related protein activities are described in the various references in this disclosure. Briefly, an example of such an assay involves collecting human or animal (e.g., mouse) cells and mixing with (1) transfected host cell-supernatant containing TNF ligand protein (or a candidate polypeptide) or (2) nontransfected host cell-supernatant control, and measuring the effect on cell numbers or viability after incubation of certain period of time. Such cell proliferation and/or survival modulation activities as can be measured in this type of assay are useful for treating tumor, tumor metastasis, infections, autoimmune diseases, inflammation and other immune-related diseases.

[0194] TNF ligand family members exhibit activity on leukocytes including, for example, monocytes, lymphocytes (e.g., B cells) and neutrophils. Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention are active in directing the proliferation, differentiation and migration of these cell types. Such activity is useful for immune enhancement or suppression, myeloprotection, stem cell mobilization, acute and chronic inflammatory control and treatment of leukemia. Assays for measuring such activity are known in the art. For example, see Peters et al., Immun. Today 17:273 (1996); Young et al., J. Exp. Med. 182:1111 (1995); Caux et al., Nature 390:258 (1992); and Santiago-Schwarz et al., Adv. Exp. Med. Biol. 378:7 (1995).

[0195] Of course, due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, one of ordinary skill in the art will immediately recognize that a large number of nucleic acid molecules having a sequence at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to nucleic acid sequences encoding TNF ligand polypeptides, including, for example, those encoded by SEQ ID NO:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41, or fragments thereof, will encode polypeptides "having TNF ligand polypeptide

functional activity" (e.g., biological activity). In fact, since degenerate variants of these nucleotide sequences all encode the same polypeptide, this will be clear to the skilled artisan even without performing the above described comparison assay. It will be further recognized in the art that, for such nucleic acid molecules that are not degenerate variants, a reasonable number will also encode a polypeptide having TNF ligand activity. This is because the skilled artisan is fully aware of amino acid substitutions that are either less likely or not likely to significantly effect protein function (e.g., replacing one aliphatic amino acid with a second aliphatic amino acid), as further described below.

#### **VECTORS AND HOST CELLS**

[0196] The present invention also relates to vectors which include the isolated DNA molecules of the present invention, host cells which are genetically engineered with the recombinant vectors, or which are otherwise engineered to produce the polypeptides of the invention, and the production of TNF ligand family member polypeptides, or fragments thereof, by recombinant or synthetic techniques.

[0197] In one embodiment, the polynucleotides of the invention are joined to a vector (e.g., a cloning or expression vector). The vector may be, for example, a phage, plasmid, viral or retroviral vector. Retroviral vectors may be replication competent or replication defective. In the latter case, viral propagation generally will occur only in complementing host cells. The polynucleotides may be joined to a vector containing a selectable marker for propagation in a host. Introduction of the vector construct into the host cell can be effected by techniques known in the art which include, but are not limited to, calcium phosphate transfection, DEAE-dextran mediated transfection, cationic lipid-mediated transfection, electroporation, transduction, infection or other methods. Such methods are described in many standard laboratory manuals, such as Davis et al., *Basic Methods In Molecular Biology* (1986).

[0198] Generally, recombinant expression vectors will include origins of replication and selectable markers permitting transformation of the host cell, e.g., the ampicillin resistance gene of *E. coli* and *S. cerevisiae* TRP1 gene, and a promoter derived from a highly-expressed gene to direct transcription of a downstream structural sequence. Such promoters can be derived from operons encoding glycolytic enzymes such as

3-phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK), α-factor, acid phosphatase, or heat shock proteins, among others. The heterologous structural sequence is assembled in appropriate phase with translation initiation and termination sequences, and preferably, a leader sequence capable of directing secretion of translated protein into the periplasmic space or extracellular medium. Optionally, the heterologous sequence can encode a fusion protein including an N-terminal identification peptide imparting desired characteristics, for example, stabilization or simplified purification of expressed recombinant product.

[0199] In one embodiment, the DNA of the invention is operatively associated with an appropriate heterologous regulatory element (e.g., promoter or enhancer), such as, the phage lambda PL promoter, the *E. coli lac*, *trp*, *phoA*, and *tac* promoters, the SV40 early and late promoters and promoters of retroviral LTRs, to name a few. Other suitable promoters will be known to the skilled artisan.

[0200] As indicated, the expression vectors will preferably include at least one selectable marker. Such markers include dihydrofolate reductase, G418 or neomycin resistance for eukaryotic cell culture and tetracycline, kanamycin or ampicillin resistance genes for culturing in *E. coli* and other bacteria. Representative examples of appropriate hosts include, but are not limited to, bacterial cells, such as *E. coli*, *Streptomyces* and *Salmonella typhimurium* cells; fungal cells, such as yeast cells (e.g., *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* or *Pichia pastoris* (ATCC Accession No. 201178)); insect cells such as *Drosophila* S2 and *Spodoptera* Sf9 cells; animal cells such as CHO, COS, 293 and Bowes melanoma cells; and plant cells. Appropriate culture mediums and conditions for the above-described host cells are known in the art.

[0201] The host cell can be a higher eukaryotic cell, such as a mammalian cell (e.g., a human derived cell), or a lower eukaryotic cell, such as a yeast cell, or the host cell can be a prokaryotic cell, such as a bacterial cell. The host strain may be chosen which modulates the expression of the inserted gene sequences, or modifies and processes the gene product in the specific fashion desired. Expression from certain promoters can be elevated in the presence of certain inducers; thus expression of the genetically engineered polypeptide may be controlled. Furthermore, different host cells have characteristics and specific mechanisms for the translational and post-translational processing and modification (e.g., phosphorylation, cleavage) of proteins. Appropriate cell lines can be chosen to ensure the desired modifications and processing of the foreign protein

expressed. Selection of appropriate vectors and promoters for expression in a host cell is a well-known procedure and the requisite techniques for expression vector construction, introduction of the vector into the host and expression in the host are routine skills in the art.

[0202] Useful expression vectors for bacterial use are constructed by inserting a structural DNA sequence encoding a desired protein together with suitable translation initiation and termination signals in operable reading phase with a functional promoter. The vector will comprise one or more phenotypic selectable markers and an origin of replication to ensure maintenance of the vector and to, if desirable, provide amplification within the host. Suitable prokaryotic hosts for transformation include *E. coli*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Salmonella typhimurium*, and various species within the genera *Pseudomonas*, *Streptomyces*, and *Staphylococcus*, although others may also be employed as a matter of choice. As a representative, but nonlimiting example, useful expression vectors for bacterial use can comprise a selectable marker and bacterial origin of replication derived from commercially available plasmids comprising genetic elements of the well-known cloning vector pBR322 (ATCC 37017). Such commercial vectors include, for example, pKK223-3 (Pharmacia Fine Chemicals, Uppsala, Sweden) and GEM1 (Promega Biotech, Madison, WI, USA). These pBR322 "backbone" sections are combined with an appropriate promoter and the structural sequence to be expressed. Among vectors preferred for use in bacteria include pHE4-5 (ATCC Accession No. 209311; and variations thereof), pQE70, pQE60 and pQE-9, available from QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*; pBS vectors, Phagescript vectors, Bluescript vectors, pNH8A, pNH16a, pNH18A, pNH46A, available from Stratagene; and ptrc99a, pKK223-3, pKK233-3, pDR540, pRIT5 available from Pharmacia. Preferred expression vectors for use in yeast systems include, but are not limited to, pYES2, pYD1, pTEF1/Zeo, pYES2/GS, pPICZ, pGAPZ, pGAPZalpha, pPIC9, pPIC3.5, pHIL-D2, pHIL-S1, pPIC3.5K, pPIC9K, and PAO815 (all available from Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). Among preferred eukaryotic vectors are pWLNEO, pSV2CAT, pOG44, pXT1 and pSG available from Stratagene; and pSVK3, pBPV, pMSG and pSVL (available from Pharmacia). Other suitable vectors will be readily apparent to the skilled artisan.

[0203] Following transformation of a suitable host strain and growth of the host strain to an appropriate cell density, the selected promoter is induced by appropriate means (e.g.,

temperature shift or chemical induction) and cells are cultured for an additional period. Cells are typically harvested by centrifugation, disrupted by physical or chemical means, and the resulting crude extract retained for further purification.

[0204] Microbial cells employed in expression of proteins can be disrupted by any convenient method, including freeze-thaw cycling, sonication, mechanical disruption, or use of cell lysing agents, such methods are well known to those skilled in the art.

[0205] In one embodiment, the yeast *Pichia pastoris* is used to express BLyS protein in a eukaryotic system. *Pichia pastoris* is a methylotrophic yeast which can metabolize methanol as its sole carbon source. A main step in the methanol metabolism pathway is the oxidation of methanol to formaldehyde using O<sub>2</sub>. This reaction is catalyzed by the enzyme alcohol oxidase. In order to metabolize methanol as its sole carbon source, *Pichia pastoris* must generate high levels of alcohol oxidase due, in part, to the relatively low affinity of alcohol oxidase for O<sub>2</sub>. Consequently, in a growth medium depending on methanol as a main carbon source, the promoter region of one of the two alcohol oxidase genes (*AOX1*) is highly active. In the presence of methanol, alcohol oxidase produced from the *AOX1* gene comprises up to approximately 30% of the total soluble protein in *Pichia pastoris*. See, Ellis, S.B., et al., *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 5:1111-21 (1985); Koutz, P.J., et al., *Yeast* 5:167-77 (1989); Tschopp, J.F., et al., *Nucl. Acids Res.* 15:3859-76 (1987). Thus, a heterologous coding sequence, such as, for example, a TNF ligand polynucleotide of the present invention, under the transcriptional regulation of all or part of the *AOX1* regulatory sequence is expressed at exceptionally high levels in *Pichia* yeast grown in the presence of methanol.

[0206] In one example, the plasmid vector pPIC9K is used to express DNA encoding a TNF ligand family member polypeptide of the invention, as set forth herein, in a *Pichia* yeast system essentially as described in "Pichia Protocols: Methods in Molecular Biology," D.R. Higgins and J. Cregg, eds. The Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 1998. This expression vector allows expression and secretion of a TNF ligand protein of the invention by virtue of the strong *AOX1* promoter linked to the *Pichia pastoris* alkaline phosphatase (PHO) secretory signal peptide (i.e., leader) located upstream of a multiple cloning site.

[0207] Many other yeast vectors could be used in place of pPIC9K, such as, pYES2, pYD1, pTEF1/Zeo, pYES2/GS, pPICZ, pGAPZ, pGAPZalpha, pPIC9, pPIC3.5, pHIL-D2, pHIL-S1, pPIC3.5K, and PAO815, as one skilled in the art would readily appreciate, as long as the proposed expression construct provides appropriately located signals for transcription, translation, secretion (if desired), and the like, including an in-frame AUG as required.

[0208] In one embodiment, high-level expression of a heterologous coding sequence, such as, for example, a TNF ligand polynucleotide of the present invention, may be achieved by cloning the heterologous polynucleotide of the invention into an expression vector such as, for example, pGAPZ or pGAPZalpha, and growing the yeast culture in the absence of methanol.

[0209] Transcription of the DNA encoding the polypeptides of the present invention by higher eukaryotes is increased by inserting an enhancer sequence into the vector. Enhancers are *cis*-acting elements of DNA, usually about from 10 to 300 bp that act on a promoter to increase its transcription. Examples including the SV40 enhancer on the late side of the replication origin bp 100 to 270, a cytomegalovirus early promoter enhancer, the polyoma enhancer on the late side of the replication origin, and adenovirus enhancers.

[0210] Various mammalian cell culture systems can also be employed to express recombinant protein. Examples of mammalian expression systems include the COS-7 lines of monkey kidney fibroblasts, described by Gluzman (*Cell* 23:175 (1981)), and other cell lines capable of expressing a compatible vector, for example, the C127, 3T3, CHO, HeLa and BHK cell lines. Mammalian expression vectors will comprise an origin of replication, a suitable promoter and enhancer, and also any necessary ribosome binding sites, polyadenylation site, splice donor and acceptor sites, transcriptional termination sequences, and 5' flanking nontranscribed sequences. DNA sequences derived from the SV40 splice, and polyadenylation sites may be used to provide the required nontranscribed genetic elements.

[0211] In a specific embodiment, constructs designed to express a portion of the extracellular domain of a TNF ligand polypeptide, as described above, are preferred. One of skill in the art would be able to use the polynucleotide sequences provided herein including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29,

31, 33, 35, 37, 39, and 41, to design polynucleotide primers to generate such an expression construct.

[0212] In another embodiment, constructs designed to express the entire predicted extracellular domain of a TNF ligand polypeptide are preferred. One of skill in the art would be able to use the polynucleotide sequences provided herein including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, and 41, to design polynucleotide primers to generate such an expression construct.

[0213] In addition to encompassing host cells containing the vector constructs discussed herein, the invention also encompasses primary, secondary, and immortalized host cells of vertebrate origin, particularly mammalian origin, that have been engineered to delete or replace endogenous genetic material (e.g., TNF ligand coding sequence), and/or to include genetic material (e.g., heterologous polynucleotide sequences) that is operably associated with TNF ligand polynucleotides of the invention, and which activates, alters, and/or amplifies endogenous TNF ligand polynucleotides. For example, techniques known in the art may be used to operably associate heterologous control regions (e.g., promoter and/or enhancer) and endogenous TNF ligand polynucleotide sequences via homologous recombination (see, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 5,641,670, issued June 24, 1997; International Publication No. WO 96/29411, published September 26, 1996; International Publication No. WO 94/12650, published August 4, 1994; Koller et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:8932-8935 (1989); and Zijlstra et al., Nature 342:435-438 (1989), the disclosures of each of which are incorporated by reference in their entireties).

[0214] The host cells described *infra* can be used in a conventional manner to produce the gene product encoded by the recombinant sequence. Alternatively, cell-free translation systems can also be employed to produce the polypeptides of the invention using RNAs derived from the DNA constructs of the present invention.

[0215] The polypeptide of the invention may be expressed or synthesized in a modified form, such as a fusion protein (comprising the polypeptide joined via a peptide bond to a heterologous protein sequence (of a different protein)), and may include not only secretion signals, but also additional heterologous functional regions. Such a fusion protein can be made by ligating polynucleotides of the invention and the desired nucleic acid sequence encoding the desired amino acid sequence to each other, by methods known in the art, in the proper reading frame, and expressing the fusion protein product by

methods known in the art. Alternatively, such a fusion protein can be made by protein synthetic techniques, e.g., by use of a peptide synthesizer. Thus, for instance, a region of additional amino acids, particularly charged amino acids, may be added to the N-terminus of the polypeptide to improve stability and persistence in the host cell, during purification, or during subsequent handling and storage. Also, peptide moieties may be added to the polypeptide to facilitate purification. Such regions may be removed prior to final preparation of the polypeptide. The addition of peptide moieties to polypeptides to engender secretion or excretion, to improve stability and to facilitate purification, among others, are familiar and routine techniques in the art.

[0216] In one embodiment, polynucleotides encoding TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention may be fused to signal sequences which will direct the localization of a protein of the invention to particular compartments of a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell and/or direct the secretion of a protein of the invention from a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell. For example, in *E. coli*, one may wish to direct the expression of the protein to the periplasmic space. Examples of signal sequences or proteins (or fragments thereof) to which the polypeptides of the invention may be fused in order to direct the expression of the polypeptide to the periplasmic space of bacteria include, but are not limited to, the pelB signal sequence, the maltose binding protein (MBP) signal sequence, MBP, the ompA signal sequence, the signal sequence of the periplasmic *E. coli* heat-labile enterotoxin B-subunit, and the signal sequence of alkaline phosphatase. Several vectors are commercially available for the construction of fusion proteins which will direct the localization of a protein, such as the pMAL series of vectors (particularly the pMAL-p series) available from New England Biolabs. In a specific embodiment, polynucleotides encoding TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention may be fused to the pelB pectate lyase signal sequence to increase the efficiency of expression and purification of such polypeptides in Gram-negative bacteria. See, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,576,195 and 5,846,818, the contents of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entireties.

[0217] Examples of signal peptides that may be fused to a polypeptide of the invention in order to direct its secretion in mammalian cells include, but are not limited to, the MPIF-1 signal sequence (amino acids 1-21 of GenBank Accession number AAB51134), the stanniocalcin signal sequence (MLQNSAVLLLLVISASA, SEQ ID NO:43), and a consensus signal sequence (MPTWAWWLFLVLLLALWAPARG, SEQ ID NO:44). A

suitable signal sequence that may be used in conjunction with baculoviral expression systems is the gp67 signal sequence, (amino acids 1-19 of GenBank Accession Number AAA72759).

[0218] A preferred fusion protein comprises a heterologous region from immunoglobulin that is useful to stabilize and purify proteins. For example, EP-A-O 464 533 (Canadian counterpart 2045869) discloses fusion proteins comprising various portions of constant region of immunoglobulin molecules together with another human protein or part thereof. In many cases, the Fc part in a fusion protein is thoroughly advantageous for use in therapy and diagnosis and thus results, for example, in improved pharmacokinetic properties (EP-A 0232 262). On the other hand, for some uses it would be desirable to be able to delete the Fc part after the fusion protein has been expressed, detected and purified in the advantageous manner described. This is the case when Fc portion proves to be a hindrance to use in therapy and diagnosis, for example when the fusion protein is to be used as antigen for immunizations. In drug discovery, for example, human proteins, such as hIL-5 has been fused with Fc portions for the purpose of high-throughput screening assays to identify antagonists of hIL-5. See, D. Bennett et al., *J. Molecular Recognition* 8:52-58 (1995) and K. Johanson et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 270:9459-9471 (1995).

[0219] Polypeptides of the present invention include naturally purified products, products of chemical synthetic procedures, and products produced by recombinant techniques from a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host, including, for example, bacterial, yeast, higher plant, insect and mammalian cells. Depending upon the host employed in a recombinant production procedure, the polypeptides of the present invention may be glycosylated or may be non-glycosylated. In addition, polypeptides of the invention may also include an initial modified methionine residue, in some cases as a result of host-mediated processes.

[0220] Polypeptides of the invention can be chemically synthesized using techniques known in the art (e.g., see Creighton, 1983, *Proteins: Structures and Molecular Principles*, W.H. Freeman & Co., N.Y., and Hunkapiller, M., et al., 1984, *Nature* 310:105-111). For example, a peptide corresponding to a fragment of a complete TNF ligand polypeptide of the invention can be synthesized by use of a peptide synthesizer. Furthermore, if desired, nonclassical amino acids or chemical amino acid analogs can be introduced as a substitution or addition into the TNF ligand polypeptide sequence. Non-classical amino

acids include, but are not limited to, to the D-isomers of the common amino acids, 2,4-diaminobutyric acid, a-amino isobutyric acid, 4-aminobutyric acid, Abu, 2-amino butyric acid, g-Abu, e-Ahx, 6-amino hexanoic acid, Aib, 2-amino isobutyric acid, 3-amino propionic acid, ornithine, norleucine, norvaline, hydroxyproline, sarcosine, citrulline, homocitrulline, cysteic acid, t-butylglycine, t-butylalanine, phenylglycine, cyclohexylalanine, b-alanine, fluoro-amino acids, designer amino acids such as b-methyl amino acids, Ca-methyl amino acids, Na-methyl amino acids, and amino acid analogs in general. Furthermore, the amino acid can be D (dextrorotary) or L (levorotary).

[0221] The invention encompasses TNF ligand polypeptides which are differentially modified during or after translation, e.g., by glycosylation, acetylation, phosphorylation, amidation, derivatization by known protecting/blocking groups, proteolytic cleavage, linkage to an antibody molecule or other cellular ligand, etc. Any of numerous chemical modifications may be carried out by known techniques, including but not limited, to specific chemical cleavage by cyanogen bromide, trypsin, chymotrypsin, papain, V8 protease, NaBH<sub>4</sub>, acetylation, formylation, oxidation, reduction, metabolic synthesis in the presence of tunicamycin, etc.

[0222] Additional post-translational modifications encompassed by the invention include, for example, e.g., N-linked or O-linked carbohydrate chains, processing of N-terminal or C-terminal ends), attachment of chemical moieties to the amino acid backbone, chemical modifications of N-linked or O-linked carbohydrate chains, and addition or deletion of an N-terminal methionine residue as a result of prokaryotic host cell expression. The polypeptides may also be modified with a detectable label, such as an enzymatic, fluorescent, radioisotopic or affinity label to allow for detection and isolation of the protein.

[0223] Examples of suitable enzymes include horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, beta-galactosidase, glucose oxidase or acetylcholinesterase; examples of suitable prosthetic group complexes include streptavidin/biotin and avidin/biotin; examples of suitable fluorescent materials include biotin, umbelliferone, fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, dichlorotriazinylamine fluorescein, dansyl chloride or phycoerythrin; an example of a luminescent material includes luminol; examples of bioluminescent materials include luciferase, luciferin, and aequorin; and examples of suitable radioactive material include a radioactive metal ion, e.g., alpha-emitters such as,

for example,  $^{213}\text{Bi}$ , or other radioisotopes such as, for example, iodine ( $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{123}\text{I}$ ,  $^{121}\text{I}$ ), carbon ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ), sulfur ( $^{35}\text{S}$ ), tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ ), indium ( $^{115m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{113m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{112}\text{In}$ ,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ), and technetium ( $^{99}\text{Tc}$ ,  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ ), thallium ( $^{201}\text{Ti}$ ), gallium ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ ,  $^{67}\text{Ga}$ ), palladium ( $^{103}\text{Pd}$ ), molybdenum ( $^{99}\text{Mo}$ ), xenon ( $^{133}\text{Xe}$ ), fluorine ( $^{18}\text{F}$ ),  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{149}\text{Pm}$ ,  $^{140}\text{La}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{186}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{188}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{142}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{105}\text{Rh}$ ,  $^{97}\text{Ru}$ ,  $^{68}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{57}\text{Co}$ ,  $^{65}\text{Zn}$ ,  $^{85}\text{Sr}$ ,  $^{32}\text{P}$ ,  $^{153}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{169}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{51}\text{Cr}$ ,  $^{54}\text{Mn}$ ,  $^{75}\text{Se}$ ,  $^{113}\text{Sn}$ , and  $^{117}\text{Tin}$ .

[0224] In specific embodiments, TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention are attached to macrocyclic chelators useful for conjugating radiometal ions, including but not limited to,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ , and  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ , to polypeptides. In a preferred embodiment, the radiometal ion associated with the macrocyclic chelators attached to TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention is  $^{111}\text{In}$ . In another preferred embodiment, the radiometal ion associated with the macrocyclic chelator attached to TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention is  $^{90}\text{Y}$ . In specific embodiments, the macrocyclic chelator is 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-N,N',N'',N'''-tetraacetic acid (DOTA). In other specific embodiments, the DOTA is attached to the TNF ligand polypeptide of the invention via a linker molecule. Examples of linker molecules useful for conjugating DOTA to a polypeptide are commonly known in the art - see, for example, DeNardo et al., Clin Cancer Res. 4(10):2483-90, 1998; Peterson et al., Bioconjug. Chem. 10(4):553-7, 1999; and Zimmerman et al, Nucl. Med. Biol. 26(8):943-50, 1999 which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. In addition, U.S. Patents 5,652,361 and 5,756,065, which disclose chelating agents that may be conjugated to antibodies, and methods for making and using them, are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties. Though U.S. Patents 5,652,361 and 5,756,065 focus on conjugating chelating agents to antibodies, one skilled in the art could readily adapt the method disclosed therein in order to conjugate chelating agents to other polypeptides.

[0225] In one embodiment, TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention may be labeled with biotin. In other related embodiments, biotinylated TNF ligand polypeptides of the invention may be used, for example, as imaging agents or as a means of identifying one or more TNF receptor(s) or other coreceptor or coligand molecules.

[0226] Also provided by the invention are chemically modified derivatives of TNF ligand polypeptides which may provide additional advantages such as increased solubility, stability and *in vivo* or *in vitro* circulating time of the polypeptide, or decreased

immunogenicity (see U. S. Patent No. 4,179,337). The chemical moieties for derivitization may be selected from water soluble polymers such as polyethylene glycol, ethylene glycol/propylene glycol copolymers, carboxymethylcellulose, dextran, polyvinyl alcohol and the like. The polypeptides may be modified at random positions within the molecule, or at predetermined positions within the molecule and may include one, two, three or more attached chemical moieties.

[0227] The polymer may be of any molecular weight, and may be branched or unbranched. For polyethylene glycol, the preferred molecular weight is between about 1 kDa and about 100 kDa (the term "about" indicating that in preparations of polyethylene glycol, some molecules will weigh more, some less, than the stated molecular weight) for ease in handling and manufacturing. Other sizes may be used, depending on the desired therapeutic profile (e.g., the duration of sustained release desired, the effects, if any on biological activity, the ease in handling, the degree or lack of antigenicity and other known effects of the polyethylene glycol to a therapeutic protein or analog). For example, the polyethylene glycol may have an average molecular weight of about 200, 500, 1000, 1500, 2000, 2500, 3000, 3500, 4000, 4500, 5000, 5500, 6000, 6500, 7000, 7500, 8000, 8500, 9000, 9500, 10,000, 10,500, 11,000, 11,500, 12,000, 12,500, 13,000, 13,500, 14,000, 14,500, 15,000, 15,500, 16,000, 16,500, 17,000, 17,500, 18,000, 18,500, 19,000, 19,500, 20,000, 25,000, 30,000, 35,000, 40,000, 50,000, 55,000, 60,000, 65,000, 70,000, 75,000, 80,000, 85,000, 90,000, 95,000, or 100,000 kDa.

[0228] As noted above, the polyethylene glycol may have a branched structure. Branched polyethylene glycols are described, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 5,643,575; Morpurgo *et al.*, *Appl. Biochem. Biotechnol.* 56:59-72 (1996); Vorobjev *et al.*, *Nucleosides Nucleotides* 18:2745-2750 (1999); and Caliceti *et al.*, *Bioconjug. Chem.* 10:638-646 (1999), the disclosures of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[0229] The polyethylene glycol molecules (or other chemical moieties) should be attached to the protein with consideration of effects on functional or antigenic domains of the protein. There are a number of attachment methods available to those skilled in the art, e.g., EP 0 401 384, herein incorporated by reference (coupling PEG to G-CSF), see also Malik *et al.*, *Exp. Hematol.* 20:1028-1035 (1992) (reporting pegylation of GM-CSF using tresyl chloride). For example, polyethylene glycol may be covalently bound through amino acid residues via a reactive group, such as, a free amino or carboxyl group.

Reactive groups are those to which an activated polyethylene glycol molecule may be bound. The amino acid residues having a free amino group may include, for example, lysine residues and the N-terminal amino acid residues; those having a free carboxyl group may include aspartic acid residues, glutamic acid residues, and the C-terminal amino acid residue. Sulfhydryl groups may also be used as a reactive group for attaching the polyethylene glycol molecules. Preferred for therapeutic purposes is attachment at an amino group, such as attachment at the N-terminus or lysine group.

[0230] As suggested above, polyethylene glycol may be attached to proteins via linkage to any of a number of amino acid residues. For example, polyethylene glycol can be linked to a protein via covalent bonds to lysine, histidine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, or cysteine residues. One or more reaction chemistries may be employed to attach polyethylene glycol to specific amino acid residues (e.g., lysine, histidine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, or cysteine) of the protein or to more than one type of amino acid residue (e.g., lysine, histidine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, cysteine and combinations thereof) of the protein.

[0231] One may specifically desire proteins chemically modified at the N-terminus. Using polyethylene glycol as an illustration, one may select from a variety of polyethylene glycol molecules (by molecular weight, branching, etc.), the proportion of polyethylene glycol molecules to protein (or peptide) molecules in the reaction mix, the type of pegylation reaction to be performed, and the method of obtaining the selected N-terminally pegylated protein. The method of obtaining the N-terminally pegylated preparation (i.e., separating this moiety from other monopegylated moieties if necessary) may be by purification of the N-terminally pegylated material from a population of pegylated protein molecules. Selective proteins chemically modified at the N-terminus modification may be accomplished by reductive alkylation which exploits differential reactivity of different types of primary amino groups (lysine versus the N-terminal) available for derivatization in a particular protein. Under the appropriate reaction conditions, substantially selective derivatization of the protein at the N-terminus with a carbonyl group containing polymer is achieved.

[0232] As indicated above, pegylation of the proteins of the invention may be accomplished by any number of means. For example, polyethylene glycol may be attached to the protein either directly or by an intervening linker. Linkerless systems for

attaching polyethylene glycol to proteins are described in Delgado *et al.*, *Crit. Rev. Therapeutic Drug Carrier Sys.* 9:249-304 (1992); Francis *et al.*, *Intern. J. of Hematol.* 68:1-18 (1998); U.S. Patent No. 4,002,531; U.S. Patent No. 5,349,052; WO 95/06058; and WO 98/32466, the disclosures of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[0233] One system for attaching polyethylene glycol directly to amino acid residues of proteins without an intervening linker employs tresylated MPEG, which is produced by the modification of monmethoxy polyethylene glycol (MPEG) using tresylchloride ( $\text{ClSO}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_3$ ). Upon reaction of protein with tresylated MPEG, polyethylene glycol is directly attached to amine groups of the protein. Thus, the invention includes protein-polyethylene glycol conjugates produced by reacting proteins of the invention with a polyethylene glycol molecule having a 2,2,2-trifluoroethane sulphonyl group.

[0234] Polyethylene glycol can also be attached to proteins using a number of different intervening linkers. For example, U.S. Patent No. 5,612,460, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference, discloses urethane linkers for connecting polyethylene glycol to proteins. Protein-polyethylene glycol conjugates wherein the polyethylene glycol is attached to the protein by a linker can also be produced by reaction of proteins with compounds such as MPEG-succinimidylsuccinate, MPEG activated with 1,1'-carbonyldiimidazole, MPEG-2,4,5-trichloropenylcarbonate, MPEG-p-nitrophenolcarbonate, and various MPEG-succinate derivatives. A number additional polyethylene glycol derivatives and reaction chemistries for attaching polyethylene glycol to proteins are described in WO 98/32466, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. Pegylated protein products produced using the reaction chemistries set out herein are included within the scope of the invention.

[0235] The number of polyethylene glycol moieties attached to each protein of the invention (*i.e.*, the degree of substitution) may also vary. For example, the pegylated proteins of the invention may be linked, on average, to 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, or more polyethylene glycol molecules. Similarly, the average degree of substitution within ranges such as 1-3, 2-4, 3-5, 4-6, 5-7, 6-8, 7-9, 8-10, 9-11, 10-12, 11-13, 12-14, 13-15, 14-16, 15-17, 16-18, 17-19, or 18-20 polyethylene glycol moieties per protein molecule. Methods for determining the degree of substitution are discussed, for example, in Delgado *et al.*, *Crit. Rev. Therapeutic Drug Carrier Sys.* 9:249-304 (1992).

[0236] The TNF ligand polypeptides can be recovered and purified by known methods which include, but are not limited to, ammonium sulfate or ethanol precipitation, acid extraction, anion or cation exchange chromatography, phosphocellulose chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, affinity chromatography, hydroxylapatite chromatography and lectin chromatography. Most preferably, high performance liquid chromatography ("HPLC") is employed for purification.

### ***POLYPEPTIDE MOLECULES***

[0237] The heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes of the invention may be dimers, trimers, tetramers or higher multimers. Accordingly, the present invention relates to multimers of TNF ligand polypeptides, their preparation, and compositions (preferably, pharmaceutical compositions) containing them. In specific embodiments, the polypeptide complexes of the invention are dimers, trimers or tetramers. In additional embodiments, the multimers of the invention are at least dimers, at least trimers, or at least tetramers.

[0238] As used herein, the term heteromer refers to a multimer containing more than one heterologous polypeptides, wherein heterologous polypeptides may be derived from a single gene or from more than one gene. In a specific embodiment, the multimer of the invention is a heterodimer, a heterotrimer, or a heterotetramer. In additional embodiments, the heteromeric multimer of the invention is at least a heterodimer, at least a heterotrimer, or at least a heterotetramer.

[0239] In specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising TNF ligand family member polypeptides including, for example, those described in Table 1, wherein said TNF ligand family polypeptides may be full length polypeptides or extracellular polypeptide domains as described herein.

[0240] In further specific embodiments the present invention provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising polypeptides at least 80% identical, more preferably at least 85% or 90% identical, and still more preferably 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to TNF ligand family

members including, for example, those described in Table 1 and disclosed as SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42.

[0241] By "% similarity" for two polypeptides is intended a similarity score produced by comparing the amino acid sequences of the two polypeptides using the Bestfit program (Wisconsin Sequence Analysis Package, Version 8 for Unix, Genetics Computer Group, University Research Park, 575 Science Drive, Madison, WI 53711) and the default settings for determining similarity. Bestfit uses the local homology algorithm of Smith and Waterman (Advances in Applied Mathematics 2:482-489, 1981) to find the best segment of similarity between two sequences.

[0242] By a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least, for example, 95% "identical" to a reference amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand polypeptide is intended that the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide is identical to the reference sequence except that the polypeptide sequence may include up to five amino acid alterations per each 100 amino acids of the reference amino acid of the TNF ligand polypeptide. In other words, to obtain a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a reference amino acid sequence, up to 5% of the amino acid residues in the reference sequence may be deleted or substituted with another amino acid, or a number of amino acids up to 5% of the total amino acid residues in the reference sequence may be inserted into the reference sequence. These alterations of the reference sequence may occur at the amino or carboxy terminal positions of the reference amino acid sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among residues in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence.

[0243] As a practical matter, whether any particular polypeptide is at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to, for instance, the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42, or fragments thereof, can be determined conventionally using known computer programs such the Bestfit program (Wisconsin Sequence Analysis Package, Version 8 for Unix, Genetics Computer Group, University Research Park, 575 Science Drive, Madison, WI 53711). When using Bestfit or any other sequence alignment program to determine whether a particular sequence is, for instance, 95% identical to a reference sequence according to the present invention, the parameters are set, of course, such that the percentage of identity is calculated over the full length of the reference amino acid

sequence and that gaps in homology of up to 5% of the total number of amino acid residues in the reference sequence are allowed.

[0244] In a specific embodiment, the identity between a reference (query) sequence (a sequence of the present invention) and a subject sequence, also referred to as a global sequence alignment, is determined using the FASTDB computer program based on the algorithm of Brutlag et al. (Comp. App. Biosci. 6:237-245 (1990)). Preferred parameters used in a FASTDB amino acid alignment are: Matrix=PAM 0, k-tuple=2, Mismatch Penalty=1, Joining Penalty=20, Randomization Group Length=0, Cutoff Score=1, Window Size=sequence length, Gap Penalty=5, Gap Size Penalty=0.05, Window Size=500 or the length of the subject amino acid sequence, whichever is shorter. According to this embodiment, if the subject sequence is shorter than the query sequence due to N- or C-terminal deletions, not because of internal deletions, a manual correction is made to the results to take into consideration the fact that the FASTDB program does not account for N- and C-terminal truncations of the subject sequence when calculating global percent identity. For subject sequences truncated at the N- and C-termini, relative to the query sequence, the percent identity is corrected by calculating the number of residues of the query sequence that are N- and C-terminal of the subject sequence, which are not matched/aligned with a corresponding subject residue, as a percent of the total bases of the query sequence. A determination of whether a residue is matched/aligned is determined by results of the FASTDB sequence alignment. This percentage is then subtracted from the percent identity, calculated by the above FASTDB program using the specified parameters, to arrive at a final percent identity score. This final percent identity score is what is used for the purposes of this embodiment. Only residues to the N- and C-termini of the subject sequence, which are not matched/aligned with the query sequence, are considered for the purposes of manually adjusting the percent identity score. That is, only query residue positions outside the farthest N- and C-terminal residues of the subject sequence. For example, a 90 amino acid residue subject sequence is aligned with a 100 residue query sequence to determine percent identity. The deletion occurs at the N-terminus of the subject sequence and therefore, the FASTDB alignment does not show a matching/alignment of the first 10 residues at the N-terminus. The 10 unpaired residues represent 10% of the sequence (number of residues at the N- and C-termini not matched/total number of residues in the query sequence) so 10% is subtracted from the

percent identity score calculated by the FASTDB program. If the remaining 90 residues were perfectly matched the final percent identity would be 90%. In another example, a 90 residue subject sequence is compared with a 100 residue query sequence. This time the deletions are internal deletions so there are no residues at the N- or C-termini of the subject sequence which are not matched/aligned with the query. In this case the percent identity calculated by FASTDB is not manually corrected. Once again, only residue positions outside the N- and C-terminal ends of the subject sequence, as displayed in the FASTDB alignment, which are not matched/aligned with the query sequence are manually corrected for. No other manual corrections are made for the purposes of this embodiment.

[0245] In further embodiments heteromultimeric complexes of the present invention comprise polypeptides of a single TNF ligand family member, for example, as described in Table 1, but not including CD40L or FasL, wherein said polypeptides may be full length polypeptides or extracellular polypeptide domains as described, herein.

[0246] In specific embodiments heterotrimeric complexes of TNF ligand family member polypeptides of the present invention, contain three full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides; three extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides; one full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptide together with two extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides; or two full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides together with one extracellular portion of a TNF ligand family member polypeptide, wherein said complex comprises polypeptides of a single TNF ligand family member which is not CD40L or FasL.

[0247] In further embodiments heteromultimeric complexes of the present invention, comprise polypeptides of two (2), or three (3) distinct TNF ligand family members, for example, as described in Table 1, wherein said TNF ligand family polypeptides may be full length polypeptides or extracellular polypeptide domains as described herein.

[0248] In further specific embodiments heterotrimeric complexes of the present invention, comprising two (2) or three (3) distinct TNF ligand family members, contain three full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides; three extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides; one full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptide together with two extracellular portions of TNF ligand family member polypeptides; or two full-length TNF ligand family member polypeptides together with one extracellular portion of a TNF ligand family member polypeptide.

[0249] In further specific embodiments heterotrimeric complexes of the present invention, comprising two (2) or three (3) distinct TNF ligand family members, contain a single polypeptide of each of three TNF ligand family members; or two polypeptides of one TNF ligand family member together with a single polypeptide of a distinct TNF ligand family member, wherein each component of said complex may be a full-length polypeptide or an extracellular portion of a polypeptide as described herein.

[0250] In one embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0251] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-beta polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:6.

[0252] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TNF-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:4.

[0253] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2, together with full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34.

[0254] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TNF-alpha polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:4, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0255] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-beta polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:6, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0256] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of Lymphotoxin-beta polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:6, together with full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34.

[0257] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of OX40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:8, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0258] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:10, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0259] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:10, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TRAIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:20.

[0260] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD40L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:10, together with full-length or extracellular portions of RANKL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:22.

[0261] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0262] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34.

[0263] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36.

[0264] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of FasL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:12, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[0265] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD70 polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:14, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0266] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD70 polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:14, together with full-length or extracellular portions of 4-1BB-L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:18.

[0267] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD70 polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:14, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24.

[0268] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD30LG polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:16, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0269] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of CD30LG polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:16, together with full-length or extracellular portions of GITRL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:40.

[0270] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of 4-1BB-L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:18, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0271] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of 4-1BB-L polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:18, together with full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24.

[0272] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TRAIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:20, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0273] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TRAIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:20, together with full-length or extracellular portions of RANKL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:22.

[0274] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of RANKL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:22, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0275] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0276] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36.

[0277] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of TWEAK polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:24, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[0278] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0279] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28.

[0280] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30.

[0281] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32.

[0282] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:26, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[0283] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0284] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30.

[0285] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32.

[0286] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of APRIL-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:28, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[0287] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0288] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30, together with full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32.

[0289] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:30, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[0290] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0291] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of BLyS-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:32, together with full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42.

[0292] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0293] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36.

[0294] In another preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of LIGHT polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:34, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[0295] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0296] In a preferred embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:36, together with full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38.

[0297] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of VEGI-SV polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:38, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0298] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of GITRL polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:40, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0299] In a further embodiment, the heterotrimeric complex of the present invention comprises full-length or extracellular portions of EDA polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:42, together with full-length or extracellular portions of other TNF ligand family member polypeptides, as described herein.

[0300] In further embodiments the present invention also provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising polypeptides of TNF ligand family members as described herein, fused to one or more heterologous polypeptide sequences.

[0301] In further embodiments the present invention also provides heteromultimeric complexes, particularly heterotrimeric complexes, comprising polypeptides at least 80% identical, more preferably at least 85% or 90% identical, and still more preferably 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to TNF ligand family members as described herein, fused to one or more heterologous polypeptide sequences.

[0302] Multimers of the invention may be the result of hydrophobic, hydrophilic, ionic and/or covalent associations and/or may be indirectly linked, by for example, liposome formation. Thus, in one embodiment, heteromultimers of the invention, such as, for example, heterotrimers or heterotetramers, are formed when polypeptides of the invention contact one another in solution. In another embodiment, heteromultimers of the invention, such as, for example, heterotrimers or heterotetramers, are formed when polypeptides of

the invention contact TNF ligand specific antibodies (including antibodies to a heterologous polypeptide comprising the invention) in solution.

[0303] In other embodiments, multimers of the invention are formed by covalent associations with and/or between the TNF ligand polypeptides comprising the invention. Such covalent associations may involve one or more amino acid residues contained in one or more TNF ligand polypeptide sequences including, for example, SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42. In one instance, the covalent associations are cross-linking between cysteine residues located within TNF ligand polypeptide sequences. In another instance, the covalent associations are the consequence of chemical or recombinant manipulation of TNF ligand polypeptides. Alternatively, such covalent associations may involve one or more amino acid residues contained in a heterologous polypeptide sequence fused to a TNF ligand polypeptide. In a specific example, the covalent associations are between the heterologous sequence contained in a TNF ligand-Fc fusion protein as described herein. In another specific example, covalent associations of fusion proteins are between heterologous polypeptide sequences from other TNF family ligand/receptor members capable of forming covalently associated multimers, such as for example, osteoprotegerin (see, e.g., International Publication No. WO 98/49305, the contents of which are herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). In another embodiment, heteromultimers of the present invention are formed when two or more TNF ligand polypeptides are joined through synthetic linkers (e.g., peptide, carbohydrate or soluble polymer linkers). Examples include those peptide linkers described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,073,627 (hereby incorporated by reference). Proteins comprising multiple TNF ligand polypeptides separated by peptide linkers may be produced using conventional recombinant DNA technology.

[0304] Another method for preparing TNF ligand polypeptide heteromultimers of the invention involves use of TNF ligand polypeptides fused to a leucine zipper or isoleucine zipper polypeptide sequence. Leucine zipper or isoleucine zipper domains are polypeptides that promote multimerization of the proteins in which they are found. Leucine zippers were originally identified in several DNA-binding proteins (Landschulz et al., *Science* 240:1759, (1988)), and have since been found in a variety of different proteins. Among the known leucine zippers or isoleucine zippers are naturally occurring peptides and derivatives thereof that dimerize or trimerize. Examples of leucine zipper

domains suitable for producing soluble heteromultimeric complexes of TNF ligand polypeptides are those described in PCT application WO 94/10308, hereby incorporated by reference. Recombinant fusion proteins comprising a soluble TNF ligand polypeptide fused to a peptide that dimerizes or trimerizes in solution are expressed in suitable host cells, and the resulting soluble heteromultimeric TNF ligand complex is recovered from the culture supernatant using techniques known in the art.

[0305] Certain members of the TNF family of proteins are believed to exist in homotrimeric form (Beutler and Huffel, *Science* 264:667, 1994; Banner et al., *Cell* 73:431, 1993). Thus, heterotrimeric complexes of TNF ligand polypeptides may offer the advantage of enhanced biological activity. Preferred leucine zipper moieties are those that preferentially form trimers. One example is a leucine zipper derived from lung surfactant protein D (SPD), as described in Hoppe et al. (*FEBS Letters* 344:191, (1994)) and in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/446,922, hereby incorporated by reference. Other peptides derived from naturally occurring trimeric proteins may be employed in preparing heterotrimeric complexes of TNF ligand polypeptides.

[0306] In another example, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention are associated by interactions between the Flag® polypeptide sequence contained in Flag®-TNF ligand fusion proteins. In a further embodiment, polypeptide complexes of the invention are associated by interactions between the heterologous polypeptide sequence contained in Flag®-TNF ligand fusion proteins and anti-Flag® antibody.

[0307] The multimers of the invention may be generated using chemical techniques known in the art. For example, polypeptides desired to be contained in the multimers of the invention may be chemically cross-linked using linker molecules and linker molecule length optimization techniques known in the art (see, e.g., US Patent Number 5,478,925, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). Additionally, multimers of the invention may be generated using techniques known in the art to form one or more intermolecule cross-links between the cysteine residues located within the sequence of the polypeptides desired to be contained in the multimer (see, e.g., US Patent Number 5,478,925, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). Further, polypeptides of the invention may be routinely modified by the addition of cysteine or biotin to the C terminus or N-terminus of the polypeptide and techniques known in the art may be applied to generate multimers containing one or more of these modified polypeptides (see, e.g.,

US Patent Number 5,478,925, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). Additionally, techniques known in the art may be applied to generate liposomes containing the polypeptide components desired to be contained in the multimer of the invention (see, e.g., US Patent Number 5,478,925, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety).

[0308] Alternatively, multimers of the invention may be generated using genetic engineering techniques known in the art. In one embodiment, polypeptides contained in multimers of the invention are produced recombinantly using fusion protein technology described herein or otherwise known in the art (see, e.g., US Patent Number 5,478,925, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). In a specific embodiment, polynucleotides coding for a homodimer of the invention are generated by ligating a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide of the invention to a sequence encoding a linker polypeptide and then further to a synthetic polynucleotide encoding the translated product of the polypeptide in the reverse orientation from the original C-terminus to the N-terminus (lacking the leader sequence) (see, e.g., US Patent Number 5,478,925, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). In another embodiment, recombinant techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art are applied to generate recombinant polypeptides of the invention which contain a transmembrane domain and which can be incorporated by membrane reconstitution techniques into liposomes (see, e.g., US Patent Number 5,478,925, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety).

[0309] The present invention provides heteromultimeric complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, TNF ligand family member polypeptides. The polypeptides comprising the invention include all known TNF ligand family members, however the present application illustrates the present invention with regard to a limited number of exemplary TNF ligand polypeptides.

[0310] In specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide Lymphotoxin-alpha of SEQ ID NO:2, which consists of about 205 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 34 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 34 of SEQ ID NO:2), a predicted

extracellular domain of about 171 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 35 to about 205 of SEQ ID NO:2), and a predicted molecular weight of about 22.5 kDa.

[0311] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide TNF-alpha of SEQ ID NO:4, which consists of about 233 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 76 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 76 of SEQ ID NO:4), a predicted extracellular domain of about 157 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 77 to about 233 of SEQ ID NO:4), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0312] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide Lymphotoxin-beta of SEQ ID NO:6, which consists of about 244 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 48 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 48 of SEQ ID NO:6), a predicted extracellular domain of about 196 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 49 to about 244 of SEQ ID NO:6), and a predicted molecular weight of about 25 kDa.

[0313] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide OX-40L of SEQ ID NO:8, which consists of about 183 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 23 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 23 of SEQ ID NO:8), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 27 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 24 to about 50 of SEQ ID NO:8), a predicted extracellular domain of about 133 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 51 to about 183 of SEQ ID NO:8), and a predicted molecular weight of about 21 kDa.

[0314] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide CD40L of SEQ ID NO:10, which consists of about 261 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 22 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 22 of SEQ ID NO:10), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 24 amino acids (amino acid residues from

about 23 to about 46 of SEQ ID NO:10), a predicted extracellular domain of about 215 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 47 to about 261 of SEQ ID NO:10), and a predicted molecular weight of about 29 kDa.

[0315] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide FasL of SEQ ID NO:12, which consists of about 281 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 79 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 79 of SEQ ID NO:12), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 23 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 80 to about 102 of SEQ ID NO:12), a predicted extracellular domain of about 179 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 103 to about 281 of SEQ ID NO:12), and a predicted molecular weight of about 31 kDa.

[0316] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide CD70 of SEQ ID NO:14, which consists of about 193 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 20 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 20 of SEQ ID NO:14), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 18 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 21 to about 38 of SEQ ID NO:14), a predicted extracellular domain of about 155 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 39 to about 193 of SEQ ID NO:14), and a predicted molecular weight of about 21 kDa.

[0317] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide CD30LG of SEQ ID NO:16, which consists of about 234 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 37 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 37 of SEQ ID NO:16), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 25 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 38 to about 62 of SEQ ID NO:16), a predicted extracellular domain of about 172 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 63 to about 234 of SEQ ID NO:16), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0318] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for

example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide 4-1BB-L of SEQ ID NO:18, which consists of about 254 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 25 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 25 of SEQ ID NO:18), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 23 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 26 to about 48 of SEQ ID NO:18), a predicted extracellular domain of about 206 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 49 to about 254 of SEQ ID NO:18), and a predicted molecular weight of about 27 kDa.

[0319] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide TRAIL of SEQ ID NO:20, which consists of about 281 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 17 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 17 of SEQ ID NO:20), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 21 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 18 to about 38 of SEQ ID NO:20), a predicted extracellular domain of about 243 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 39 to about 281 of SEQ ID NO:20), and a predicted molecular weight of about 33 kDa.

[0320] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide RANKL of SEQ ID NO:22, which consists of about 317 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 47 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 47 of SEQ ID NO:22), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 21 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 48 to about 68 of SEQ ID NO:22), a predicted extracellular domain of about 249 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 69 to about 317 of SEQ ID NO:22), and a predicted molecular weight of about 35 kDa.

[0321] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide TWEAK of SEQ ID NO:24, which consists of about 249 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 40 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 40 of SEQ ID NO:24), a predicted extracellular domain of about 209 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 41 to about 249 of SEQ ID NO:24), and a predicted molecular weight of about 27 kDa.

[0322] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide APRIL of SEQ ID NO:26, which consists of about 250 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 49 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 49 of SEQ ID NO:26), a predicted extracellular domain of about 201 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 50 to about 250 of SEQ ID NO:26), a predicted mature secreted domain of about 146 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 105 to about 250 of SEQ ID NO:26), and a predicted molecular weight of about 27 kDa.

[0323] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide APRIL-SV of SEQ ID NO:28, which consists of about 234 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 104 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 104 of SEQ ID NO:28), a predicted extracellular domain of about 130 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 105 to about 234 of SEQ ID NO:28), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0324] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide BLyS of SEQ ID NO:30, which consists of about 285 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 72 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 72 of SEQ ID NO:30), a predicted extracellular domain of about 213 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 73 to about 285 of SEQ ID NO:30), and a predicted molecular weight of about 31 kDa.

[0325] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide BLyS-SV of SEQ ID NO:32, which consists of about 266 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 72 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 72 of SEQ ID NO:32), a predicted extracellular domain of about 194 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 73 to about 266 of SEQ ID NO:32), and a predicted molecular weight of about 29 kDa.

[0326] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide LIGHT of SEQ ID NO:34, which consists of about 240 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted intracellular domain of about 37 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 37 of SEQ ID NO:34), a predicted transmembrane domain of about 21 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 38 to about 58 of SEQ ID NO:34), a predicted extracellular domain of about 162 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 59 to about 240 of SEQ ID NO:34), and a predicted molecular weight of about 26 kDa.

[0327] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide VEGI of SEQ ID NO:36, which consists of about 174 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 27 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 27 of SEQ ID NO:36), a predicted extracellular domain of about 147 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 28 to about 174 of SEQ ID NO:36), and a predicted molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

[0328] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide VEGI-SV of SEQ ID NO:38, which consists of about 251 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 59 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 59 of SEQ ID NO:38), a predicted extracellular domain of about 192 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 60 to about 251 of SEQ ID NO:38), and a predicted molecular weight of about 28 kDa.

[0329] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide AITRL of SEQ ID NO:40, which consists of about 177 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 43 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 43 of SEQ ID NO:40), a predicted extracellular domain of about 126 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 44 to about 177 of SEQ ID NO:40), and a predicted molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

[0330] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, for

example, the TNF ligand family member polypeptide EDA of SEQ ID NO:42, which consists of about 391 amino acid residues and comprises a predicted signal peptide of about 43 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 1 to about 43 of SEQ ID NO:42), a predicted extracellular domain of about 329 amino acids (amino acid residues from about 63 to about 391 of SEQ ID NO:42), and a predicted molecular weight of about 41 kDa.

[0331] It will be appreciated that, the polypeptide domains described herein have been predicted by computer analysis, and accordingly, that depending on the analytical criteria used for identifying various functional domains, the exact "address" of the extracellular, intracellular and transmembrane domains and signal peptides of the TNF ligand family member polypeptides may differ slightly. For example, the exact location of the BLyS and BLyS-SV extracellular domains described above, may vary slightly (e.g., the address may "shift" by about 1 to about 20 residues, more likely about 1 to about 5 residues) depending on the criteria used to define the domain. In any event, as discussed further below, the invention further provides polypeptides having various residues deleted from the N-terminus and/or C-terminus of the complete polypeptides, including polypeptides lacking one or more amino acids from the N-termini of the extracellular domains described herein, which constitute soluble forms of the extracellular domains of the TNF ligand family member polypeptides.

[0332] Polypeptide fragments comprising the present invention include polypeptides comprising or alternatively, consisting of, any amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand polypeptide known in the art; any amino acid sequence contained in SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42; any amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41; or any amino acid sequence encoded by nucleic acids which hybridize (e.g., under stringent hybridization conditions) to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41 or the complementary strand thereto.

[0333] Protein fragments may be "free-standing," or comprised within a larger polypeptide of which the fragment forms a part or region, most preferably as a single continuous region. Representative examples of polypeptide fragments of the invention, include, for example, fragments that comprise or alternatively, consist of from about amino acid residues: 1 to 34, and/or 35 to 205 of SEQ ID NO:2; 1 to 76, and/or 77 to 233

of SEQ ID NO:4; 1 to 48, and/or 49 to 244 of SEQ ID NO:6; 1 to 23, 24 to 50, and/or 51 to 183 of SEQ ID NO:8; 1 to 22, 23 to 46, and/or 47 to 261 of SEQ ID NO:10; 1 to 79, 80 to 102, and/or 103 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:12; 1 to 20, 21 to 38, and/or 39 to 193 of SEQ ID NO:14; 1 to 37, 38 to 62, and/or 63 to 234 of SEQ ID NO:16; 1 to 25, 26 to 48, and/or 49 to 254 of SEQ ID NO:18; 1 to 17, 18 to 38, and/or 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:20; 1 to 47, 48 to 68, and/or 69 to 317 of SEQ ID NO:22; 1 to 40, and/or 41 to 249 of SEQ ID NO:24; 1 to 49, 50 to 250, and/or 105 to 250 of SEQ ID NO:26; 1 to 104, and/or 105 to 234 of SEQ ID NO:28; 1 to 72, and/or 73 to 285 of SEQ ID NO:30; 1 to 72, and/or 73 to 266 of SEQ ID NO:32; 1 to 37, 38 to 58, and/or 59 to 240 of SEQ ID NO:34; 1 to 27, and/or 28 to 174 of SEQ ID NO:36; 1 to 59, and/or 60 to 251 of SEQ ID NO:38; 1 to 43, and/or 44 to 177 of SEQ ID NO:40; and 1 to 62, and/or 63 to 391 of SEQ ID NO:42. Moreover, polypeptide fragments can be at least 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 175 or 200 amino acids in length. Polynucleotides encoding these polypeptides are also encompassed by the invention.

[0334] In another embodiment, the invention provides a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex comprising, or alternatively consisting of, an epitope-bearing portion of a polypeptide complex of the invention. Polynucleotides encoding these polypeptides are also encompassed by the invention. The epitope of this polypeptide complex is an immunogenic or antigenic epitope of a polypeptide complex of the invention. An "immunogenic epitope" is defined as a part of a protein that elicits an antibody response when the whole protein is the immunogen. On the other hand, a region of a protein molecule to which an antibody can bind is defined as an "antigenic epitope." The number of immunogenic epitopes of a protein generally is less than the number of antigenic epitopes. See, for instance, Geysen *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 81:3998- 4002 (1983).

[0335] As to the selection of polypeptides bearing an antigenic epitope (i.e., that contain a region of a protein molecule to which an antibody can bind), it is well known in that art that relatively short synthetic peptides that mimic part of a protein sequence are routinely capable of eliciting an antiserum that reacts with the partially mimicked protein. See, for instance, Sutcliffe, J. G., Shinnick, T. M., Green, N. and Learner, R. A. (1983) "Antibodies that react with predetermined sites on proteins", *Science*, 219:660-666. Peptides capable of eliciting protein-reactive sera are frequently represented in the primary

sequence of a protein, can be characterized by a set of simple chemical rules, and are confined neither to immunodominant regions of intact proteins (i.e., immunogenic epitopes) nor to the amino or carboxyl terminals. Antigenic epitope-bearing peptides and polypeptides of the invention are therefore useful to raise antibodies, including monoclonal antibodies, that bind specifically to a polypeptide of the invention. See, for instance, Wilson *et al.*, *Cell* 37:767-778 (1984) at 777.

[0336] Antigenic epitope-bearing peptides and polypeptides of the invention preferably contain a sequence of at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, more preferably at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 11, at least 12, at least 13, at least 14, at least 15, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, and, most preferably, between about 15 to about 30 amino acids contained within the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide of the invention. Preferred polypeptides comprising immunogenic or antigenic epitopes are at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, or 100 amino acid residues in length. Additional non-exclusive preferred antigenic epitopes include the antigenic epitopes disclosed herein, as well as portions thereof.

[0337] The epitope-bearing heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may be produced by any conventional means. See, e.g., Houghten, R. A. (1985) General method for the rapid solid-phase synthesis of large numbers of peptides: specificity of antigen-antibody interaction at the level of individual amino acids. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 82:5131-5135; this "Simultaneous Multiple Peptide Synthesis (SMPS)" process is further described in U. S. Patent No. 4,631,211 to Houghten et al. (1986).

[0338] Epitope-bearing peptides and polypeptides of the invention have uses that include, but are not limited to, to induce antibodies according to methods well known in the art. See, for instance, Sutcliffe et al., *supra*; Wilson et al., *supra*; Chow, M. et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 82:910-914; and Bittle, F. J. *et al.*, *J. Gen. Virol.* 66:2347-2354 (1985). Immunogenic epitope-bearing peptides of the invention, i.e., those parts of a protein that elicit an antibody response when the whole protein is the immunogen, are identified according to methods known in the art. See, for instance, Geysen et al., *supra*. Further still, U.S. Patent No. 5,194,392 to Geysen (1990) describes a general method of detecting or determining the sequence of monomers (amino acids or other compounds) which is a topological equivalent of the epitope (i.e., a "mimotope") which is complementary to a particular paratope (antigen binding site) of an antibody of interest.

More generally, U.S. Patent No. 4,433,092 to Geysen (1989) describes a method of detecting or determining a sequence of monomers which is a topographical equivalent of a ligand which is complementary to the ligand binding site of a particular receptor of interest. Similarly, U.S. Patent No. 5,480,971 to Houghten, R. A. et al. (1996) on Peralkylated Oligopeptide Mixtures discloses linear C1-C7-alkyl peralkylated oligopeptides and sets and libraries of such peptides, as well as methods for using such oligopeptide sets and libraries for determining the sequence of a peralkylated oligopeptide that preferentially binds to an acceptor molecule of interest. Thus, non-peptide analogs of the epitope-bearing peptides of the invention also can be made routinely by these methods.

[0339] The present invention encompasses polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, an epitope of a TNF ligand polypeptide including, for example, a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42; or an epitope of the polypeptide sequence encoded by a polynucleotide sequence encoding a TNF ligand polypeptide including, for example, a polynucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41; or an epitope of the polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that hybridizes to the complement of the polynucleotide sequence encoding a TNF ligand polypeptide including, for example, a polynucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, or 41 (e.g., under hybridization conditions described herein). The present invention further encompasses polynucleotide sequences comprising, or alternatively consisting of, a sequence encoding an epitope of a polypeptide sequence of the invention (such as, for example, the sequence disclosed in SEQ ID NO:1), polynucleotide sequences of the complementary strand of a polynucleotide sequence encoding an epitope of the invention, and polynucleotide sequences which hybridize to the complementary strand (e.g., under hybridization conditions described herein).

[0340] In further specific embodiments, the present invention provides heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes comprising antigenic and/or immunogenic epitopes. In one specific embodiment, polypeptide complexes of the present invention comprise epitopes of individual TNF ligand polypeptides. In another specific embodiment, polypeptide complexes of the invention comprise epitopes specific

to those complexes, i.e. not found in individual TNF ligand polypeptides comprising said polypeptide complexes.

[0341] The term "epitopes," as used herein, refers to portions of a polypeptide having antigenic or immunogenic activity in an animal, preferably a mammal, and most preferably in a human. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention encompasses a polypeptide comprising an epitope, as well as the polynucleotide encoding this polypeptide. An "immunogenic epitope," as used herein, is defined as a portion of a protein that elicits an antibody response in an animal, as determined by any method known in the art, for example, by the methods for generating antibodies described *infra*. (See, for example, Geysen et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 81:3998- 4002 (1983)). The term "antigenic epitope," as used herein, is defined as a portion of a protein to which an antibody can immunospecifically bind its antigen as determined by any method well known in the art, for example, by the immunoassays described herein. Immunospecific binding excludes non-specific binding but does not necessarily exclude cross-reactivity with other antigens. Antigenic epitopes need not necessarily be immunogenic.

[0342] Fragments which function as epitopes may be produced by any conventional means. (See, e.g., Houghten, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 82:5131-5135 (1985), further described in U.S. Patent No. 4,631,211).

[0343] In the present invention, antigenic epitopes preferably contain a sequence of at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, more preferably at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 11, at least 12, at least 13, at least 14, at least 15, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, and, most preferably, between about 15 to about 30 amino acids. Preferred polypeptides comprising immunogenic or antigenic epitopes are at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, or 100 amino acid residues in length. Additional non-exclusive preferred antigenic epitopes include the antigenic epitopes disclosed herein, as well as portions thereof. Antigenic epitopes are useful, for example, to raise antibodies, including monoclonal antibodies, that specifically bind the epitope. Preferred antigenic epitopes include the antigenic epitopes disclosed herein, as well as any combination of two, three, four, five or more of these antigenic epitopes. Antigenic epitopes can be used as the target molecules in immunoassays. (See, for instance, Wilson et al., Cell 37:767-778 (1984); Sutcliffe et al., Science 219:660-666 (1983)).

[0344] Similarly, immunogenic epitopes can be used, for example, to induce antibodies according to methods well known in the art. (See, for instance, Sutcliffe et al., *supra*; Wilson et al., *supra*; Chow et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 82:910-914; and Bittle et al., J. Gen. Virol. 66:2347-2354 (1985). Preferred immunogenic epitopes include the immunogenic epitopes disclosed herein, as well as any combination of two, three, four, five or more of these immunogenic epitopes. The polypeptides comprising one or more immunogenic epitopes may be presented for eliciting an antibody response together with a carrier protein, such as an albumin, to an animal system (such as rabbit or mouse), or, if the polypeptide is of sufficient length (at least about 25 amino acids), the polypeptide may be presented without a carrier. However, immunogenic epitopes comprising as few as 8 to 10 amino acids have been shown to be sufficient to raise antibodies capable of binding to, at the very least, linear epitopes in a denatured polypeptide (e.g., in Western blotting).

[0345] Epitope-bearing polypeptides of the present invention may be used to induce antibodies according to methods well known in the art including, but not limited to, *in vivo* immunization, *in vitro* immunization, and phage display methods. See, e.g., Sutcliffe et al., *supra*; Wilson et al., *supra*, and Bittle et al., J. Gen. Virol., 66:2347-2354 (1985). If *in vivo* immunization is used, animals may be immunized with free peptide; however, anti-peptide antibody titer may be boosted by coupling the peptide to a macromolecular carrier, such as keyhole limpet hemacyanin (KLH) or tetanus toxoid. For instance, peptides containing cysteine residues may be coupled to a carrier using a linker such as maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysuccinimide ester (MBS), while other peptides may be coupled to carriers using a more general linking agent such as glutaraldehyde. Animals such as rabbits, rats and mice are immunized with either free or carrier-coupled peptides, for instance, by intraperitoneal and/or intradermal injection of emulsions containing about 100 micrograms of peptide or carrier protein and Freund's adjuvant or any other adjuvant known for stimulating an immune response. Several booster injections may be needed, for instance, at intervals of about two weeks, to provide a useful titer of anti-peptide antibody which can be detected, for example, by ELISA assay using free peptide adsorbed to a solid surface. The titer of anti-peptide antibodies in serum from an immunized animal may be increased by selection of anti-peptide antibodies, for instance, by adsorption to the peptide on a solid support and elution of the selected antibodies according to methods well known in the art.

[0346] As one of skill in the art will appreciate, and as discussed above, the polypeptides of the present invention comprising an immunogenic or antigenic epitope can be fused to other polypeptide sequences. For example, the polypeptides of the present invention may be fused with the constant domain of immunoglobulins (IgA, IgE, IgG, IgM), or portions thereof (CH1, CH2, CH3, or any combination thereof and portions thereof), or albumin (including but not limited to recombinant human albumin or fragments or variants thereof (see, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 5,876,969, issued March 2, 1999, EP Patent 0 413 622, and U.S. Patent No. 5,766,883, issued June 16, 1998, herein incorporated by reference in their entirety)), resulting in chimeric polypeptides. Such fusion proteins may facilitate purification and may increase half-life *in vivo*. This has been shown for chimeric proteins consisting of the first two domains of the human CD4-polypeptide and various domains of the constant regions of the heavy or light chains of mammalian immunoglobulins. See, e.g., EP 394,827; Traunecker et al., Nature, 331:84-86 (1988). Enhanced delivery of an antigen across the epithelial barrier to the immune system has been demonstrated for antigens (e.g., insulin) conjugated to an FcRn binding partner such as IgG or Fc fragments (see, e.g., PCT Publications WO 96/22024 and WO 99/04813). IgG Fusion proteins that have a disulfide-linked dimeric structure due to the IgG portion desulfide bonds have also been found to be more efficient in binding and neutralizing other molecules than monomeric polypeptides or fragments thereof alone. See, e.g., Fountoulakis et al., J. Biochem., 270:3958-3964 (1995). Nucleic acids encoding the above epitopes can also be recombined with a gene of interest as an epitope tag (e.g., the hemagglutinin ("HA") tag or flag tag) to aid in detection and purification of the expressed polypeptide. For example, a system described by Janknecht et al. allows for the ready purification of non-denatured fusion proteins expressed in human cell lines (Janknecht et al., 1991, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88:8972- 897). In this system, the gene of interest is subcloned into a vaccinia recombination plasmid such that the open reading frame of the gene is translationally fused to an amino-terminal tag consisting of six histidine residues. The tag serves as a matrix-binding domain for the fusion protein. Extracts from cells infected with the recombinant vaccinia virus are loaded onto Ni<sup>2+</sup> nitriloacetic acid-agarose column and histidine-tagged proteins can be selectively eluted with imidazole-containing buffers.

[0347] In another embodiment, the heteromultimeric TNF polypeptide complexes of the present invention and the epitope-bearing fragments thereof are fused with a heterologous antigen (e.g., polypeptide, carbohydrate, phospholipid, or nucleic acid). In specific embodiments, the heterologous antigen is an immunogen.

[0348] In a more specific embodiment, the heterologous antigen is the gp120 protein of HIV, or a fragment thereof. Polynucleotides encoding these polypeptides are also encompassed by the invention.

[0349] The techniques of gene-shuffling, motif-shuffling, exon-shuffling, and/or codon-shuffling (collectively referred to as "DNA shuffling") may be employed to modulate the activities of heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes thereby effectively generating agonists and antagonists of TNF ligands. See generally, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,605,793, 5,811,238, 5,830,721, 5,834,252, and 5,837,458, and Patten, P. A., *et al.*, *Curr. Opinion Biotechnol.* 8:724-33 (1997); Harayama, S. *Trends Biotechnol.* 16(2):76-82 (1998); Hansson, L. O., *et al.*, *J. Mol. Biol.* 287:265-76 (1999); and Lorenzo, M. M. and Blasco, R. *Biotechniques* 24(2):308-13 (1998) (each of these patents and publications are hereby incorporated by reference). In one embodiment, alteration of TNF ligand polynucleotides and corresponding polypeptides may be achieved by DNA shuffling. DNA shuffling involves the assembly of two or more DNA segments into a desired TNF ligand molecule by homologous, or site-specific, recombination. In another embodiment, TNF ligand polynucleotides and corresponding polypeptides may be altered by being subjected to random mutagenesis by error-prone PCR, random nucleotide insertion or other methods prior to recombination. In another embodiment, one or more components, motifs, sections, parts, domains, fragments, etc., of TNF ligands may be recombined with one or more components, motifs, sections, parts, domains, fragments, etc. of one or more heterologous molecules. In preferred embodiments, the heterologous molecules are, for example, TNF-alpha, lymphotoxin-alpha (LT-alpha, also known as TNF-beta), LT-beta (found in complex heterotrimer LT-alpha<sub>2</sub>-beta), OPGL, FasL, CD27L, CD30L, CD40L, 4-1BBL, DcR3, OX40L, TNF-gamma (International Publication No. WO 96/14328), AIM-I (International Publication No. WO 97/33899), AIM-II (International Publication No. WO 97/34911), APRIL (J. Exp. Med. 188(6):1185-1190), endokine-alpha (International Publication No. WO 98/07880), OPG, OX40, and nerve growth factor (NGF), and soluble forms of Fas, CD30, CD27, CD40 and 4-IBB, TR2 (International

Publication No. WO 96/34095), DR3 (International Publication No. WO 97/33904), DR4 (International Publication No. WO 98/32856), TR5 (International Publication No. WO 98/30693), TR6 (International Publication No. WO 98/30694), TR7 (International Publication No. WO 98/41629), TRANK, TR9 (International Publication No. WO 98/56892), TR10 (International Publication No. WO 98/54202), 312C2 (International Publication No. WO 98/06842), TR12, CAD, and v-FLIP. In further embodiments, the heterologous molecules are any member of the TNF ligand family.

[0350] To improve or alter the characteristics of heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes, protein engineering may be employed. Recombinant DNA technology known to those skilled in the art can be used to create novel mutant proteins or "muteins including single or multiple amino acid substitutions, deletions, additions or fusion proteins. Such modified polypeptides can show, e.g., enhanced activity or increased stability. In addition, they may be purified in higher yields and show better solubility than the corresponding natural polypeptide, at least under certain purification and storage conditions. For instance, for many proteins, including the extracellular domain or the mature form(s) of a secreted protein, it is known in the art that one or more amino acids may be deleted from the N-terminus or C-terminus without substantial loss of biological function. For instance, Ron et al., J. Biol. Chem., 268:2984-2988 (1993) reported modified KGF proteins that had heparin binding activity even if 3, 8, or 27 amino-terminal amino acid residues were missing.

[0351] Heteromultimeric complexes of TNF ligand family member polypeptides with deletions of N-terminal amino acids may retain some biological activity such as, for example, the ability to stimulate lymphocyte (e.g., B cell) proliferation, differentiation, and/or activation, and cytotoxicity to appropriate target cells. However, even if deletion of one or more amino acids from the N-terminus of a protein results in modification or loss of one or more biological functions of the polypeptide complex of the invention, other functional activities may still be retained.

[0352] Accordingly, the present invention further provides heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes comprising polypeptides having one or more residues deleted from the amino terminus of the amino acid sequence of the TNF ligand polypeptide, and polynucleotides encoding such polypeptides.

[0353] Similarly, many examples of biologically functional C-terminal deletion muteins are known. For instance, Interferon gamma shows up to ten times higher activities by deleting 8-10 amino acid residues from the carboxy terminus of the protein (Döbeli et al., *J. Biotechnology* 7:199-216 (1988)). Since the present invention provides complexes of TNF ligand family member polypeptides, deletions of C-terminal amino acids may be expected to retain biological activity such as, for example, ligand binding, the ability to stimulate lymphocyte (e.g., B cell) proliferation, differentiation, and/or activation, and modulation of cell replication. However, even if deletion of one or more amino acids from the C-terminus of an individual protein results in modification or loss of one or more biological functions of the protein, other functional activities of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may still be retained.

[0354] Accordingly, the present invention further provides heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, TNF ligand polypeptides having one or more residues deleted from the carboxy terminus , and polynucleotides encoding such polypeptides.

[0355] Also provided are heteromultimeric TNF ligand family member polypeptide complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, polypeptides comprising, or alternatively consisting of, one or more amino acids deleted from both the amino and the carboxyl termini. Polynucleotides encoding all of the above deletion polypeptides are encompassed by the invention.

[0356] It will be recognized by one of ordinary skill in the art that some amino acid sequences of TNF ligand polypeptides can be varied without significant effect on the structure or function of the heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes it comprises. If such differences in sequence are contemplated, it should be remembered that there will be critical areas on the polypeptide which determine activity.

[0357] Thus, the invention further includes Heteromultimeric complexes of TNF ligand polypeptides comprising variations of TNF ligand polypeptides which show TNF ligand polypeptide functional activity (e.g., biological activity) or which include regions of TNF ligand polypeptides such as the polypeptide fragments described herein. The invention also provides heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes comprising variant TNF ligand polypeptides, which heteromultimeric complexes show TNF ligand polypeptide functional activity (e.g., biological activity). Such mutants include deletions,

insertions, inversions, repeats, and type substitutions selected according to general rules known in the art so as have little effect on activity. For example, guidance concerning how to make phenotypically silent amino acid substitutions is provided in Bowie, J. U. et al., "Deciphering the Message in Protein Sequences: Tolerance to Amino Acid Substitutions," *Science* 247:1306-1310 (1990), wherein the authors indicate that there are two main approaches for studying the tolerance of an amino acid sequence to change. The first method relies on the process of evolution, in which mutations are either accepted or rejected by natural selection. The second approach uses genetic engineering to introduce amino acid changes at specific positions of a cloned gene and selections or screens to identify sequences that maintain functionality.

[0358] As the authors state, these studies have revealed that proteins are surprisingly tolerant of amino acid substitutions. The authors further indicate which amino acid changes are likely to be permissive at a certain position of the protein. For example, most buried amino acid residues require nonpolar side chains, whereas few features of surface side chains are generally conserved. Other such phenotypically silent substitutions are described in Bowie, J. U. *et al.*, *supra*, and the references cited therein. Typically seen as conservative substitutions are the replacements, one for another, among the aliphatic amino acids Ala, Val, Leu and Ile; interchange of the hydroxyl residues Ser and Thr, exchange of the acidic residues Asp and Glu, substitution between the amide residues Asn and Gln, exchange of the basic residues Lys and Arg and replacements among the aromatic residues Phe, Tyr.

[0359] Thus, a fragment, derivative or analog of a TNF ligand polypeptide comprising the present invention, may be (i) one in which one or more of the amino acid residues are substituted with a conserved or non-conserved amino acid residue (preferably a conserved amino acid residue) and such substituted amino acid residue may or may not be one encoded by the genetic code, or (ii) one in which one or more of the amino acid residues includes a substituent group, or (iii) one in which the extracellular domain of the polypeptide is fused with another compound, such as a compound to increase the half-life of the polypeptide (for example, polyethylene glycol), or (iv) one in which the additional amino acids are fused to the extracellular domain of the polypeptide, such as an IgG Fc fusion region peptide or leader or secretory sequence or a sequence which is employed for purification of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide or a proprotein sequence. Such

fragments, derivatives and analogs are deemed to be within the scope of those skilled in the art from the teachings herein.

[0360] Thus, TNF ligand polypeptides comprising the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the present invention, may include one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or additions, either from natural mutations or human manipulation. As indicated, changes are preferably of a minor nature, such as conservative amino acid substitutions that do not significantly affect the folding or activity of the protein (see Table 2).

TABLE 2. Conservative Amino Acid Substitutions.

Aromatic	Phenylalanine Tryptophan Tyrosine
Hydrophobic	Leucine Isoleucine Valine
Polar	Glutamine Asparagine
Basic	Arginine Lysine Histidine
Acidic	Aspartic Acid Glutamic Acid
Small	Alanine Serine Threonine Methionine Glycine

[0361] In one embodiment of the invention, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprise TNF ligand polypeptides having an amino acid sequence which contains at least one conservative amino acid substitution, but not more than 50 conservative amino acid substitutions, even more preferably, not more than 40 conservative amino acid substitutions, still more preferably, not more than 30 conservative amino acid substitutions, and still even more preferably, not more than 20 conservative amino acid substitutions. Of course, in order of ever-increasing preference, it is highly preferable for a peptide or polypeptide comprising a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, to have an amino acid sequence which comprises the amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand polypeptide, which contains at least one, but not more than 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 conservative amino acid substitutions. Polynucleotides encoding these polypeptides are also encompassed by the invention. The resulting TNF ligand proteins comprising the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may be routinely screened for TNF ligand functional activity and/or physical properties (such as, for example, enhanced or reduced stability and/or solubility). Preferably, the resulting proteins have an increased and/or a decreased TNF ligand functional activity. More preferably, the resulting proteins have more than one increased and/or decreased functional activity and/or physical property.

[0362] Amino acids in the TNF ligand polypeptides comprising heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes of the present invention, that are essential for function can be identified by methods known in the art, such as site-directed mutagenesis or alanine-scanning mutagenesis (Cunningham and Wells, *Science* 244:1081-1085 (1989)). The latter procedure introduces single alanine mutations at every residue in the molecule. The resulting mutant molecules are then tested for functional activity, such ligand binding and the ability to stimulate lymphocyte (e.g., B cell) as, for example, proliferation, differentiation, and/or activation.

[0363] Of special interest are substitutions of charged amino acids with other charged or neutral amino acids which may produce proteins with highly desirable improved characteristics, such as less aggregation. Aggregation may not only reduce activity but also be problematic when preparing pharmaceutical formulations, because aggregates can be immunogenic (Pinckard *et al.*, *Clin. Exp. Immunol.* 2:331-340 (1967); Robbins *et al.*,

Diabetes 36: 838-845 (1987); Cleland *et al.*, *Crit. Rev. Therapeutic Drug Carrier Systems* 10:307-377 (1993).

[0364] In one embodiment of the invention, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes comprise TNF ligand polypeptides having an amino acid sequence which contains at least one non-conservative amino acid substitution, but not more than 50 non-conservative amino acid substitutions, even more preferably, not more than 40 non-conservative amino acid substitutions, still more preferably, not more than 30 non-conservative amino acid substitutions, and still even more preferably, not more than 20 non-conservative amino acid substitutions. Of course, in order of ever-increasing preference, it is highly preferable for a peptide or polypeptide comprising a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, to have an amino acid sequence which comprises the amino acid sequence of a TNF ligand polypeptide, which contains at least one, but not more than 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 non-conservative amino acid substitutions. Polynucleotides encoding these polypeptides are also encompassed by the invention. The resulting TNF ligand proteins comprising the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may be routinely screened for TNF ligand functional activity and/or physical properties (such as, for example, enhanced or reduced stability and/or solubility). Preferably, the resulting proteins have an increased and/or a decreased TNF ligand functional activity. More preferably, the resulting proteins have more than one increased and/or decreased functional activity and/or physical property.

[0365] Replacement of amino acids can also change the selectivity of the binding of a ligand to cell surface receptors. For example, Ostade *et al.*, *Nature* 361:266-268 (1993) describes certain mutations resulting in selective binding of TNF-alpha to only one of the two known types of TNF receptors. Since heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the present invention comprise members of the TNF polypeptide family, mutations in TNF ligand polypeptides may have similar effects on the receptor binding characteristics of said heteromultimers.

[0366] Sites that are critical for ligand-receptor binding can also be determined by structural analysis such as crystallization, nuclear magnetic resonance or photoaffinity labeling (Smith *et al.*, *J. Mol. Biol.* 224:899-904 (1992) and de Vos *et al.* *Science* 255:306-312 (1992)).

[0367] In order to modulate the function of heteromultimers of the present invention, mutations may be made in sequences encoding the TNF conserved domains of TNF ligand polypeptides. Heteromultimers comprising TNF ligand polypeptides having specific mutations at positions where conserved amino acids are typically found in related TNFs, will act as antagonists to TNF ligand activity. Heteromultimers comprising TNF ligand polypeptides having specific mutations at positions where conserved amino acids are typically found in related TNFs, will act as agonists to TNF ligand activity. Heteromultimers comprising TNF ligand polypeptides having specific mutations at positions where conserved amino acids are typically found in related TNFs, will act as inhibitors to TNF ligand activity. Heteromultimers comprising TNF ligand polypeptides having specific mutations at positions where conserved amino acids are typically found in related TNFs, will act to enhance TNF ligand activity.

[0368] Recombinant DNA technology known to those skilled in the art (see, for instance, DNA shuffling *supra*) can be used to create novel mutant proteins or muteins including single or multiple amino acid substitutions, deletions, additions or fusion proteins. Heteromultimeric complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, such modified polypeptides can show, e.g., enhanced activity or increased stability. In addition, they may be purified in higher yields and show better solubility than the corresponding heteromultimers comprising, or alternatively consisting of, wild-type polypeptide, at least under certain purification and storage conditions.

[0369] Thus, the invention also encompasses heteromultimeric complexes comprising, or alternatively consisting of, TNF ligand polypeptide derivatives and analogs that have one or more amino acid residues deleted, added, or substituted to generate TNF ligand polypeptides that are better suited for expression, scale up, etc., in the host cells chosen. For example, cysteine residues can be deleted or substituted with another amino acid residue in order to eliminate disulfide bridges; N-linked glycosylation sites can be altered or eliminated to achieve, for example, expression of a homogeneous product that is more easily recovered and purified from yeast hosts which are known to hyperglycosylate N-linked sites. To this end, a variety of amino acid substitutions at one or both of the first or third amino acid positions on any one or more of the glycosylation recognitions sequences in TNF ligand polypeptides, and/or an amino acid deletion at the second position of any one or more such recognition sequences will prevent glycosylation of the TNF ligand at

the modified tripeptide sequence (see, e.g., Miyajima et al., EMBO J 5(6):1193-1197). By way of non-limiting example, mutation of the serine at position 244 to alanine either singly or in combination with mutation of the asparagine at position 242 to glutamine abolishes glycosylation of the mature soluble form of APRIL (amino acids 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:26) when expressed in the yeast *Pichia pastoris*.

[0370] Additionally, one or more of the amino acid residues of the polypeptides of the invention (e.g., arginine and lysine residues) may be deleted or substituted with another residue to eliminate undesired processing by proteases such as, for example, furins or kexins. One possible result of such a mutation is that a TNF ligand polypeptide comprising a heteromultimer of the invention is not cleaved and released from the cell surface.

[0371] The heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the present invention are preferably provided in an isolated form, and preferably are substantially purified. Heteromultimers of the invention resulting from recombinant expression of TNF ligand polypeptides can be substantially purified by the one-step method described in Smith and Johnson, *Gene* 67:31-40 (1988).

[0372] The heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the present invention have uses that include, but are not limited to, as a molecular weight marker on SDS-PAGE gels or on molecular sieve gel filtration columns using methods well known to those skilled in the art. Additionally, as described in detail below, polypeptide complexes of the present invention have uses that include, but are not limited to, raising polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies, which are useful in assays for detecting TNF ligand polypeptide complex expression as described below or as agonists and antagonists capable of enhancing or inhibiting TNF ligand function. Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention comprising TNF ligand polypeptides, also have therapeutic uses as described herein.

#### ***TRANSGENICS AND “KNOCK-OUTS”***

[0373] The heteromultimeric complexes of the invention can also be expressed in transgenic animals by introducing genes encoding the individual heteromeric complex polypeptide members. Animals of any species, including, but not limited to, mice, rats, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, pigs, micro-pigs, goats, sheep, cows and non-human

primates, e.g., baboons, monkeys, and chimpanzees may be used to generate transgenic animals. In a specific embodiment, techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art, are used to express heteromultimeric complexes of the invention in humans, as part of a gene therapy protocol.

[0374] Any technique known in the art may be used to introduce the transgene (i.e., polynucleotides encoding the heteromeric complex polypeptide members of the invention) into animals to produce the founder lines of transgenic animals. Such techniques include, but are not limited to, pronuclear microinjection (Paterson, *et al.*, *Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol.* 40:691-698 (1994); Carver et al., *Biotechnology (NY)* 11:1263-1270 (1993); Wright et al., *Biotechnology (NY)* 9:830-834 (1991); and Hoppe et al., U.S. Pat. No. 4,873,191 (1989)); retrovirus mediated gene transfer into germ lines (Van der Putten et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA* 82:6148-6152 (1985)), blastocysts or embryos; gene targeting in embryonic stem cells (Thompson et al., *Cell* 56:313-321 (1989)); electroporation of cells or embryos (Lo, 1983, *Mol Cell. Biol.* 3:1803-1814 (1983)); introduction of the polynucleotides of the invention using a gene gun (see, e.g., Ulmer et al., *Science* 259:1745 (1993); introducing nucleic acid constructs into embryonic pluripotent stem cells and transferring the stem cells back into the blastocyst; and sperm-mediated gene transfer (Lavitrano et al., *Cell* 57:717-723 (1989); etc. For a review of such techniques, see Gordon, "Transgenic Animals," *Intl. Rev. Cytol.* 115:171-229 (1989), which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. See also, U.S. Patent No. 5,464,764 (Capecchi, et al., Positive-Negative Selection Methods and Vectors); U.S. Patent No. 5,631,153 (Capecchi, et al., Cells and Non-Human Organisms Containing Predetermined Genomic Modifications and Positive-Negative Selection Methods and Vectors for Making Same); U.S. Patent No. 4,736,866 (Leder, et al., Transgenic Non-Human Animals); and U.S. Patent No. 4,873,191 (Wagner, et al., Genetic Transformation of Zygotes); each of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0375] Any technique known in the art may be used to produce transgenic clones containing polynucleotides of the invention, for example, nuclear transfer into enucleated oocytes of nuclei from cultured embryonic, fetal, or adult cells induced to quiescence (Campell et al., *Nature* 380:64-66 (1996); Wilmut et al., *Nature* 385:810-813 (1997)).

[0376] The present invention provides for transgenic animals that carry the transgene in all their cells, as well as animals which carry the transgene in some, but not all their

cells, *i.e.*, mosaic or chimeric animals. The transgene may be integrated as a single transgene or as multiple copies such as in concatamers, e.g., head-to-head tandems or head-to-tail tandems. The transgene may also be selectively introduced into and activated in a particular cell type by following, for example, the teaching of Lasko et al. (Lasko et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:6232-6236 (1992)). The regulatory sequences required for such a cell-type specific activation will depend upon the particular cell type of interest, and will be apparent to those of skill in the art. When it is desired that the polynucleotide transgene be integrated into the chromosomal site of the endogenous gene, gene targeting is preferred. Briefly, when such a technique is to be utilized, vectors containing some nucleotide sequences homologous to the endogenous gene are designed for the purpose of integrating, via homologous recombination with chromosomal sequences, into and disrupting the function of the nucleotide sequence of the endogenous gene. The transgene may also be selectively introduced into a particular cell type, thus inactivating the endogenous gene in only that cell type, by following, for example, the teaching of Gu et al. (Gu et al., Science 265:103-106 (1994)). The regulatory sequences required for such a cell-type specific inactivation will depend upon the particular cell type of interest, and will be apparent to those of skill in the art. In addition to expressing the polypeptide of the present invention in a ubiquitous or tissue specific manner in transgenic animals, it would also be routine for one skilled in the art to generate constructs which regulate expression of the polypeptide by a variety of other means (for example, developmentally or chemically regulated expression).

[0377] Once transgenic animals have been generated, the expression of the recombinant gene may be assayed utilizing standard techniques. Initial screening may be accomplished by Southern blot analysis or PCR techniques to analyze animal tissues to verify that integration of the transgene has taken place. The level of mRNA expression of the transgene in the tissues of the transgenic animals may also be assessed using techniques which include, but are not limited to, Northern blot analysis of tissue samples obtained from the animal, *in situ* hybridization analysis, reverse transcriptase-PCR (rt-PCR); and TaqMan PCR. Samples of transgenic gene-expressing tissue may also be evaluated immunocytochemically or immunohistochemically using antibodies specific for the transgene product.

[0378] Once the founder animals are produced, they may be bred, inbred, outbred, or crossbred to produce colonies of the particular animal. Examples of such breeding strategies include, but are not limited to: outbreeding of founder animals with more than one integration site in order to establish separate lines; inbreeding of separate lines in order to produce compound transgenics that express the transgene at higher levels because of the effects of additive expression of each transgene; crossing of heterozygous transgenic animals to produce animals homozygous for a given integration site in order to both augment expression and eliminate the need for screening of animals by DNA analysis; crossing of separate homozygous lines to produce compound heterozygous or homozygous lines; breeding to place the transgene on a distinct background that is appropriate for an experimental model of interest; and breeding of transgenic animals to other animals bearing a distinct transgene or knockout mutation.

[0379] Transgenic and "knock-out" animals of the invention have uses which include, but are not limited to, animal model systems useful in elaborating the biological function of individual heteromeric complex polypeptide members, studying conditions and/or disorders associated with aberrant individual heteromeric complex polypeptide member expression, and in screening for compounds effective in ameliorating such conditions and/or disorders.

[0380] In further embodiments of the invention, cells that are genetically engineered to express the polypeptides of the invention, or alternatively, that are genetically engineered not to express the polypeptides of the invention (e.g., knockouts) are administered to a patient *in vivo*. Such cells may be obtained from the patient (i.e., animal, including human) or an MHC compatible donor and can include, but are not limited to fibroblasts, bone marrow cells, blood cells (e.g., lymphocytes), adipocytes, muscle cells, endothelial cells etc. The cells are genetically engineered *in vitro* using recombinant DNA techniques to introduce the coding sequence of polypeptides of the invention into the cells, or alternatively, to disrupt the coding sequence and/or endogenous regulatory sequence associated with the polypeptides of the invention, e.g., by transduction (using viral vectors, and preferably vectors that integrate the transgene into the cell genome) or transfection procedures, including, but not limited to, the use of plasmids, cosmids, YACs, naked DNA, electroporation, liposomes, etc. The coding sequence of the polypeptides of the invention can be placed under the control of a strong constitutive or inducible

promoter or promoter/enhancer to achieve expression, and preferably secretion, of the polypeptides of the invention. The engineered cells which express and preferably secrete the polypeptides of the invention can be introduced into the patient systemically, e.g., in the circulation, or intraperitoneally.

[0381] Alternatively, the cells can be incorporated into a matrix and implanted in the body, e.g., genetically engineered fibroblasts can be implanted as part of a skin graft; genetically engineered endothelial cells can be implanted as part of a lymphatic or vascular graft. (See, for example, Anderson et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,399,349; and Mulligan & Wilson, U.S. Patent No. 5,460,959 each of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety).

[0382] When the cells to be administered are non-autologous or non-MHC compatible cells, they can be administered using well known techniques which prevent the development of a host immune response against the introduced cells. For example, the cells may be introduced in an encapsulated form which, while allowing for an exchange of components with the immediate extracellular environment, does not allow the introduced cells to be recognized by the host immune system.

[0383] Once the gene transfer methods described above are carried out for one individual heteromeric complex member, they can be repeated using a second or third, etc., individual heteromeric complex polypeptide member (*i.e.*, sequential administration). Alternatively, a single nucleotide sequence encoding two or more individual heteromeric complex polypeptide members (*e.g.*, in tandem) can be introduced so that the multiple members of the complex expressed via a single gene transfer. Such co-administered nucleotide sequences can be under the control of a single expression regulatory system, or each can have its own regulatory system.

### ***ANTIBODIES***

[0384] Further polypeptides of the invention relate to antibodies and T-cell antigen receptors (TCR) which immunospecifically bind a heteromultimeric complex or variant, and/or an epitope, of the present invention (as determined by immunoassays well known in the art for assaying specific antibody-antigen binding).

[0385] In specific embodiments, antibodies of the invention specifically bind epitopes composed of portions of different members of the heteromultimeric complex. For example, and not by way of limitation, in specific embodiments for heterotrimers (with either two or three polypeptide members), the epitopes bound by the antibodies of the invention are composed residues from only a single first polypeptide member; only two first polypeptide members; a single first polypeptide member and a single second polypeptide member; two first polypeptide members and a single second polypeptide member; or a first, second, and third polypeptide member. Thus, antibodies of the invention that recognize epitopes composed of two, or three, different polypeptide members of the heteromultimeric complex may be specific to the heteromultimer and thereby distinguish the heteromultimer from the individual polypeptide members or from homomultimers composed of the individual polypeptide members.

[0386] These permutations can likewise be extended to heterodimers and heterotetramers.

[0387] Antibodies of the invention include, but are not limited to, polyclonal, monoclonal, multispecific, human, humanized or chimeric antibodies, single chain antibodies, Fab fragments, F(ab') fragments, fragments produced by a Fab expression library, anti-idiotypic (anti-Id) antibodies (including, e.g., anti-id antibodies to antibodies of the invention), and epitope-binding fragments of any of the above. The term "antibody," as used herein, refers to immunoglobulin molecules and immunologically active portions of immunoglobulin molecules, i.e., molecules that contain an antigen binding site that immunospecifically binds an antigen. The immunoglobulin molecules of the invention can be of any type (e.g., IgG, IgE, IgM, IgD, IgA and IgY), class (e.g., IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgA1 and IgA2) or subclass of immunoglobulin molecule. In preferred embodiments, the immunoglobulin is an IgG1 or an IgG4 isotype. Immunoglobulins may have both a heavy and light chain. An array of IgG, IgE, IgM, IgD, IgA, and IgY heavy chains may be paired with a light chain of the kappa or lambda forms.

[0388] Most preferably the antibodies are human antigen-binding antibody fragments of the present invention and include, but are not limited to, Fab, Fab' and F(ab')2, Fd, single-chain Fvs (scFv), single-chain antibodies, disulfide-linked Fvs (sdFv) and fragments comprising either a VL or VH domain. Antigen-binding antibody fragments,

including single-chain antibodies, may comprise the variable region(s) alone or in combination with the entirety or a portion of the following: hinge region, CH1, CH2, and CH3 domains. Also included in the invention are antigen-binding fragments also comprising any combination of variable region(s) with a hinge region, CH1, CH2, and CH3 domains. The antibodies of the invention may be from any animal origin including birds and mammals. Preferably, the antibodies are human, murine (e.g., mouse and rat), donkey, sheep rabbit, goat, guinea pig, camel, horse, or chicken. As used herein, "human" antibodies include antibodies having the amino acid sequence of a human immunoglobulin and include antibodies isolated from human immunoglobulin libraries or from animals transgenic for one or more human immunoglobulin and that do not express endogenous immunoglobulins, as described infra and, for example in, U.S. Patent No. 5,939,598 by Kucherlapati et al.

[0389] The antibodies of the present invention may be monospecific, bispecific, trispecific or of greater multispecificity. Multispecific antibodies may be specific for different epitopes of a polypeptide of the present invention or may be specific for both a polypeptide of the present invention as well as for a heterologous epitope, such as a heterologous polypeptide or solid support material. See, e.g., PCT publications WO 93/17715; WO 92/08802; WO91/00360; WO 92/05793; Tutt, et al., J. Immunol. 147:60-69 (1991); U.S. Patent Nos. 4,474,893; 4,714,681; 4,925,648; 5,573,920; 5,601,819; Kostelny et al., J. Immunol. 148:1547-1553 (1992).

[0390] Antibodies of the present invention may be described or specified in terms of the epitope(s) or portion(s) of a polypeptide of the present invention which they recognize or specifically bind. The epitope(s) or polypeptide portion(s) may be specified as described herein, e.g., by N-terminal and C-terminal positions, by size in contiguous amino acid residues, or listed in the Tables and Figures. Antibodies which specifically bind any epitope or polypeptide of the present invention may also be excluded. Therefore, the present invention includes antibodies that specifically bind polypeptides of the present invention, and allows for the exclusion of the same.

[0391] In specific embodiments, antibodies of the invention bind to polypeptide complexes of the invention comprising polypeptides having the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42. In further preferred, nonexclusive embodiments, the antibodies of the invention inhibit one

or more biological activities of the heteromultimeric complexes of the invention through specific binding. In more preferred embodiments, the antibody of the invention inhibits BLyS- and/or BLySSV/APRIL-mediated B cell proliferation.

[0392] Antibodies of the present invention may also be described or specified in terms of their cross-reactivity. Antibodies that do not bind any other analog, ortholog, or homolog of a polypeptide of the present invention are included. Antibodies that bind polypeptides with at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 75%, at least 70%, at least 65%, at least 60%, at least 55%, and at least 50% identity (as calculated using methods known in the art and described herein) to a polypeptide of the present invention are also included in the present invention. In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the present invention that bind BLyS- and/or BLySSV cross react with APRIL (e.g., SEQ ID NO:20 or SEQ ID NO:47; PCT International Publication Number WO97/33902; GenBank Accession No. AF046888 (nucleotide) and AAC6132 (protein); J. Exp. Med. 188(6):1185-1190). In specific embodiments, antibodies of the present invention cross-react with murine, rat and/or rabbit homologs of human proteins and the corresponding epitopes thereof. Antibodies that do not bind polypeptides with less than 95%, less than 90%, less than 85%, less than 80%, less than 75%, less than 70%, less than 65%, less than 60%, less than 55%, and less than 50% identity (as calculated using methods known in the art and described herein) to a polypeptide of the present invention are also included in the present invention. In a specific embodiment, the above-described cross-reactivity is with respect to any single specific antigenic or immunogenic polypeptide, or combination(s) of 2, 3, 4, 5, or more of the specific antigenic and/or immunogenic polypeptides disclosed herein. Further included in the present invention are antibodies which bind polypeptides encoded by polynucleotides which hybridize to a polynucleotide of the present invention under hybridization conditions (as described herein). Antibodies of the present invention may also be described or specified in terms of their binding affinity to a polypeptide of the invention. Preferred binding affinities include those with a dissociation constant or Kd less than  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M,  $10^{-5}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $10^{-6}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-7}$  M,  $10^{-7}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-8}$  M,  $10^{-8}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-9}$  M,  $10^{-9}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-10}$  M,  $10^{-10}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-11}$  M,  $10^{-11}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-12}$  M,  $10^{-12}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-13}$  M,  $10^{-13}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-14}$  M,  $10^{-14}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-15}$  M, or  $10^{-15}$  M.

[0393] The invention also provides antibodies that competitively inhibit binding of an antibody to an epitope of the invention as determined by any method known in the art for

determining competitive binding, for example, the immunoassays described herein. In preferred embodiments, the antibody competitively inhibits binding to the epitope by at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85 %, at least 80%, at least 75%, at least 70%, at least 60%, or at least 50%.

[0394] Antibodies of the present invention may act as agonists or antagonists of the heteromultimeric complexes of the present invention. For example, the present invention includes antibodies which disrupt the receptor/ligand interactions with the heteromultimeric complexes of the invention either partially or fully. Preferably, antibodies of the present invention bind an antigenic epitope disclosed herein, or a portion thereof. The invention features both receptor-specific antibodies and ligand-specific antibodies. The invention also features receptor-specific antibodies which do not prevent ligand binding but prevent receptor activation. Receptor activation (i.e., signaling) may be determined by techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art. For example, receptor activation can be determined by detecting the phosphorylation (e.g., tyrosine or serine/threonine) of the receptor or its substrate by immunoprecipitation followed by western blot analysis (for example, as described supra). In specific embodiments, antibodies are provided that inhibit ligand activity or receptor activity by at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 75%, at least 70%, at least 60%, or at least 50% of the activity in absence of the antibody.

[0395] The invention also features receptor-specific antibodies which both prevent ligand binding and receptor activation as well as antibodies that recognize the receptor-ligand complex, and, preferably, do not specifically recognize the unbound receptor or the unbound ligand. Likewise, included in the invention are neutralizing antibodies which bind the ligand and prevent binding of the ligand to the receptor, as well as antibodies which bind the ligand, thereby preventing receptor activation, but do not prevent the ligand from binding the receptor. Further included in the invention are antibodies which activate the receptor. These antibodies may act as receptor agonists, i.e., potentiate or activate either all or a subset of the biological activities of the ligand-mediated receptor activation, for example, by inducing dimerization of the receptor. The antibodies may be specified as agonists, antagonists or inverse agonists for biological activities comprising the specific biological activities of the peptides of the invention disclosed herein. The above antibody agonists can be made using methods known in the art. See, e.g., PCT

publication WO 96/40281; U.S. Patent No. 5,811,097; Deng et al., Blood 92(6):1981-1988 (1998); Chen et al., Cancer Res. 58(16):3668-3678 (1998); Harrop et al., J. Immunol. 161(4):1786-1794 (1998); Zhu et al., Cancer Res. 58(15):3209-3214 (1998); Yoon et al., J. Immunol. 160(7):3170-3179 (1998); Prat et al., J. Cell. Sci. 111(Pt2):237-247 (1998); Pitard et al., J. Immunol. Methods 205(2):177-190 (1997); Liautard et al., Cytokine 9(4):233-241 (1997); Carlson et al., J. Biol. Chem. 272(17):11295-11301 (1997); Taryman et al., Neuron 14(4):755-762 (1995); Muller et al., Structure 6(9):1153-1167 (1998); Bartunek et al., Cytokine 8(1):14-20 (1996) (which are all incorporated by reference herein in their entireties).

[0396] Antibodies of the present invention may be used, for example, but not limited to, to purify, detect, and target the polypeptides of the present invention, including both *in vitro* and *in vivo* diagnostic and therapeutic methods. For example, the antibodies have use in immunoassays for qualitatively and quantitatively measuring levels of the heteromultimeric complexes of the present invention in biological samples. See, e.g., Harlow et al., *Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual*, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2nd ed. 1988) (incorporated by reference herein in its entirety).

[0397] As discussed in more detail below, the antibodies of the present invention may be used either alone or in combination with other compositions. The antibodies may further be recombinantly fused to a heterologous polypeptide at the N- or C-terminus or chemically conjugated (including covalently and non-covalently conjugations) to polypeptides or other compositions. For example, antibodies of the present invention may be recombinantly fused or conjugated to molecules useful as labels in detection assays and effector molecules such as heterologous polypeptides, drugs, radionuclides, or toxins. See, e.g., PCT publications WO 92/08495; WO 91/14438; WO 89/12624; U.S. Patent No. 5,314,995; and EP 396,387.

[0398] The antibodies of the invention include derivatives that are modified, i.e., by the covalent attachment of any type of molecule to the antibody such that covalent attachment does not prevent the antibody from generating an anti-idiotypic response. For example, but not by way of limitation, the antibody derivatives include antibodies that have been modified, e.g., by glycosylation, acetylation, pegylation, phosphorylation, amidation, derivatization by known protecting/blocking groups, proteolytic cleavage, linkage to a cellular ligand or other protein, etc. Any of numerous chemical modifications may be

carried out by known techniques, including, but not limited to specific chemical cleavage, acetylation, formylation, metabolic synthesis of tunicamycin, etc. Additionally, the derivative may contain one or more non-classical amino acids.

[0399] The antibodies of the present invention may be generated by any suitable method known in the art. Polyclonal antibodies to an antigen-of-interest can be produced by various procedures well known in the art. For example, a polypeptide of the invention can be administered to various host animals including, but not limited to, rabbits, mice, rats, etc. to induce the production of sera containing polyclonal antibodies specific for the antigen. Various adjuvants may be used to increase the immunological response, depending on the host species, and include but are not limited to, Freund's (complete and incomplete), mineral gels such as aluminum hydroxide, surface active substances such as lysolecithin, pluronic polyols, polyanions, peptides, oil emulsions, keyhole limpet hemocyanins, dinitrophenol, and potentially useful human adjuvants such as BCG (bacille Calmette-Guerin) and corynebacterium parvum. Such adjuvants are also well known in the art.

[0400] Monoclonal antibodies can be prepared using a wide variety of techniques known in the art including the use of hybridoma, recombinant, and phage display technologies, or a combination thereof. For example, monoclonal antibodies can be produced using hybridoma techniques including those known in the art and taught, for example, in Harlow et al., *Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual*, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2nd ed. 1988); Hammerling, et al., in: *Monoclonal Antibodies and T-Cell Hybridomas* 563-681 (Elsevier, N.Y., 1981) (said references incorporated by reference in their entireties). The term "monoclonal antibody" as used herein is not limited to antibodies produced through hybridoma technology. The term "monoclonal antibody" refers to an antibody that is derived from a single clone, including any eukaryotic, prokaryotic, or phage clone, and not the method by which it is produced.

[0401] A "monoclonal antibody" may comprise, or alternatively consist of, two proteins, i.e., a heavy and a light chain.

[0402] Methods for producing and screening for specific antibodies using hybridoma technology are routine and well known in the art and are discussed in detail in the Examples (e.g., Example 9). In a non-limiting example, mice can be immunized with a polypeptide of the invention or a cell expressing such peptide. Once an immune response

is detected, e.g., antibodies specific for the antigen are detected in the mouse serum, the mouse spleen is harvested and splenocytes isolated. The splenocytes are then fused by well-known techniques to any suitable myeloma cells, for example cells from cell line SP20 available from the ATCC. Hybridomas are selected and cloned by limited dilution. The hybridoma clones are then assayed by methods known in the art for cells that secrete antibodies capable of binding a polypeptide of the invention. Ascites fluid, which generally contains high levels of antibodies, can be generated by immunizing mice with positive hybridoma clones.

[0403] Accordingly, the present invention provides methods of generating monoclonal antibodies as well as antibodies produced by the method comprising culturing a hybridoma cell secreting an antibody of the invention wherein, preferably, the hybridoma is generated by fusing splenocytes isolated from a mouse immunized with an antigen of the invention with myeloma cells and then screening the hybridomas resulting from the fusion for hybridoma clones that secrete an antibody able to bind a polypeptide of the invention.

[0404] Antibody fragments which recognize specific epitopes may be generated by known techniques. For example, Fab and F(ab')2 fragments of the invention may be produced by proteolytic cleavage of immunoglobulin molecules, using enzymes such as papain (to produce Fab fragments) or pepsin (to produce F(ab')2 fragments). F(ab')2 fragments contain the variable region, the light chain constant region and the CH1 domain of the heavy chain.

[0405] For example, the antibodies of the present invention can also be generated using various phage display methods known in the art. In phage display methods, functional antibody domains are displayed on the surface of phage particles which carry the polynucleotide sequences encoding them. In a particular embodiment, such phage can be utilized to display antigen-binding domains expressed from a repertoire or combinatorial antibody library (e.g., human or murine). Phage expressing an antigen binding domain that binds the antigen of interest can be selected or identified with antigen, e.g., using labeled antigen or antigen bound or captured to a solid surface or bead. Phage used in these methods are typically filamentous phage including fd and M13 binding domains expressed from phage with Fab, Fv or disulfide stabilized Fv antibody domains recombinantly fused to either the phage gene III or gene VIII protein. Examples of phage

display methods that can be used to make the antibodies of the present invention include those disclosed in Brinkman et al., J. Immunol. Methods 182:41-50 (1995); Ames et al., J. Immunol. Methods 184:177-186 (1995); Kettleborough et al., Eur. J. Immunol. 24:952-958 (1994); Persic et al., Gene 187 9-18 (1997); Burton et al., Advances in Immunology 57:191-280 (1994); PCT application No. PCT/GB91/01134; PCT publications WO 90/02809; WO 91/10737; WO 92/01047; WO 92/18619; WO 93/11236; WO 95/15982; WO 95/20401; and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,698,426; 5,223,409; 5,403,484; 5,580,717; 5,427,908; 5,750,753; 5,821,047; 5,571,698; 5,427,908; 5,516,637; 5,780,225; 5,658,727; 5,733,743 and 5,969,108; each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0406] As described in the above references, after phage selection, the antibody coding regions from the phage can be isolated and used to generate whole antibodies, including human antibodies, or any other desired antigen binding fragment, and expressed in any desired host, including mammalian cells, insect cells, plant cells, yeast, and bacteria, e.g., as described in detail below. For example, techniques to recombinantly produce Fab, Fab' and F(ab')2 fragments can also be employed using methods known in the art such as those disclosed in PCT publication WO 92/22324; Mullinax et al., BioTechniques 12(6):864-869 (1992); and Sawai et al., AJRI 34:26-34 (1995); and Better et al., Science 240:1041-1043 (1988) (said references incorporated by reference in their entireties).

[0407] Examples of techniques which can be used to produce single-chain Fvs and antibodies include those described in U.S. Patents 4,946,778 and 5,258,498; Huston et al., Methods in Enzymology 203:46-88 (1991); Shu et al., PNAS 90:7995-7999 (1993); and Skerra et al., Science 240:1038-1040 (1988). For some uses, including *in vivo* use of antibodies in humans and *in vitro* detection assays, it may be preferable to use chimeric, humanized, or human antibodies. A chimeric antibody is a molecule in which different portions of the antibody are derived from different animal species, such as antibodies having a variable region derived from a murine monoclonal antibody and a human immunoglobulin constant region. Methods for producing chimeric antibodies are known in the art. See e.g., Morrison, Science 229:1202 (1985); Oi et al., BioTechniques 4:214 (1986); Gillies et al., (1989) J. Immunol. Methods 125:191-202; U.S. Patent Nos. 5,807,715; 4,816,567; and 4,816,397, which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. Humanized antibodies are antibody molecules from non-human species antibody

that binds the desired antigen having one or more complementarity determining regions (CDRs) from the non-human species and a framework region from a human immunoglobulin molecule. Often, framework residues in the human framework regions will be substituted with the corresponding residue from the CDR donor antibody to alter, preferably improve, antigen binding. These framework substitutions are identified by methods well known in the art, e.g., by modeling of the interactions of the CDR and framework residues to identify framework residues important for antigen binding and sequence comparison to identify unusual framework residues at particular positions. (See, e.g., Queen et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,585,089; Riechmann et al., Nature 332:323 (1988), which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.) Antibodies can be humanized using a variety of techniques known in the art including, for example, CDR-grafting (EP 239,400; PCT publication WO 91/09967; U.S. Patent Nos. 5,225,539; 5,530,101; and 5,585,089), veneering or resurfacing (EP 592,106; EP 519,596; Padlan, Molecular Immunology 28(4/5):489-498 (1991); Studnicka et al., Protein Engineering 7(6):805-814 (1994); Roguska. et al., PNAS 91:969-973 (1994)), and chain shuffling (U.S. Patent No. 5,565,332).

[0408] Completely human antibodies are particularly desirable for therapeutic treatment of human patients. Human antibodies can be made by a variety of methods known in the art including phage display methods described above using antibody libraries derived from human immunoglobulin sequences. See also, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,444,887 and 4,716,111; and PCT publications WO 98/46645, WO 98/50433, WO 98/24893, WO 98/16654, WO 96/34096, WO 96/33735, and WO 91/10741; each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0409] Human antibodies can also be produced using transgenic mice which are incapable of expressing functional endogenous immunoglobulins, but which can express human immunoglobulin genes. For example, the human heavy and light chain immunoglobulin gene complexes may be introduced randomly or by homologous recombination into mouse embryonic stem cells. Alternatively, the human variable region, constant region, and diversity region may be introduced into mouse embryonic stem cells in addition to the human heavy and light chain genes. The mouse heavy and light chain immunoglobulin genes may be rendered non-functional separately or simultaneously with the introduction of human immunoglobulin loci by homologous

recombination. In particular, homozygous deletion of the JH region prevents endogenous antibody production. The modified embryonic stem cells are expanded and microinjected into blastocysts to produce chimeric mice. The chimeric mice are then bred to produce homozygous offspring which express human antibodies. The transgenic mice are immunized in the normal fashion with a selected antigen, e.g., all or a portion of a polypeptide of the invention. Monoclonal antibodies directed against the antigen can be obtained from the immunized, transgenic mice using conventional hybridoma technology. The human immunoglobulin transgenes harbored by the transgenic mice rearrange during B cell differentiation, and subsequently undergo class switching and somatic mutation. Thus, using such a technique, it is possible to produce therapeutically useful IgG, IgA, IgM and IgE antibodies. For an overview of this technology for producing human antibodies, see Lonberg and Huszar, *Int. Rev. Immunol.* 13:65-93 (1995). For a detailed discussion of this technology for producing human antibodies and human monoclonal antibodies and protocols for producing such antibodies, see, e.g., PCT publications WO 98/24893; WO 92/01047; WO 96/34096; WO 96/33735; European Patent No. 0 598 877; U.S. Patent Nos. 5,413,923; 5,625,126; 5,633,425; 5,569,825; 5,661,016; 5,545,806; 5,814,318; 5,885,793; 5,916,771; and 5,939,598, which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety. In addition, companies such as Abgenix, Inc. (Freemont, CA) and Genpharm (San Jose, CA) can be engaged to provide human antibodies directed against a selected antigen using technology similar to that described above.

[0410] Completely human antibodies which recognize a selected epitope can be generated using a technique referred to as "guided selection." In this approach a selected non-human monoclonal antibody, e.g., a mouse antibody, is used to guide the selection of a completely human antibody recognizing the same epitope. (Jespers et al., *Bio/technology* 12:899-903 (1988)).

[0411] Further, antibodies to the polypeptides of the invention can, in turn, be utilized to generate anti-idiotype antibodies that "mimic" polypeptides of the invention using techniques well known to those skilled in the art. (See, e.g., Greenspan & Bona, *FASEB J.* 7(5):437-444; (1989) and Nissinoff, *J. Immunol.* 147(8):2429-2438 (1991)). For example, antibodies which bind to and competitively inhibit polypeptide multimerization and/or binding of a polypeptide of the invention to a ligand can be used to generate anti-idiotypes that "mimic" the polypeptide multimerization and/or binding domain and, as a

consequence, bind to and neutralize polypeptide and/or its ligand. Such neutralizing anti-idiotypes or Fab fragments of such anti-idiotypes can be used in therapeutic regimens to neutralize polypeptide ligand. For example, such anti-idiotypic antibodies can be used to bind a polypeptide of the invention and/or to bind its ligands/receptors, and thereby block its biological activity.

### **POLYNUCLEOTIDES ENCODING ANTIBODIES**

[0412] The invention further provides polynucleotides comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an antibody of the invention and fragments thereof. The invention also encompasses polynucleotides that hybridize under stringent or lower stringency hybridization conditions, e.g., as defined *supra*, to polynucleotides that encode an antibody, preferably, that specifically binds to a heteromultimeric complex of the invention, preferably, an antibody that binds to a epitope composed of residues of the amino acid sequences listed in Table 1, and as detailed in the subsection above.

[0413] The polynucleotides may be obtained, and the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotides determined, by any method known in the art. For example, if the nucleotide sequence of the antibody is known, a polynucleotide encoding the antibody may be assembled from chemically synthesized oligonucleotides (e.g., as described in Kutmeier et al., BioTechniques 17:242 (1994)), which, briefly, involves the synthesis of overlapping oligonucleotides containing portions of the sequence encoding the antibody, annealing and ligating of those oligonucleotides, and then amplification of the ligated oligonucleotides by PCR.

[0414] Alternatively, a polynucleotide encoding an antibody may be generated from nucleic acid from a suitable source. If a clone containing a nucleic acid encoding a particular antibody is not available, but the sequence of the antibody molecule is known, a nucleic acid encoding the immunoglobulin may be chemically synthesized or obtained from a suitable source (e.g., an antibody cDNA library, or a cDNA library generated from, or nucleic acid, preferably poly A+ RNA, isolated from, any tissue or cells expressing the antibody, such as hybridoma cells selected to express an antibody of the invention) by PCR amplification using synthetic primers hybridizable to the 3' and 5' ends of the sequence or by cloning using an oligonucleotide probe specific for the particular gene

sequence to identify, e.g., a cDNA clone from a cDNA library that encodes the antibody. Amplified nucleic acids generated by PCR may then be cloned into replicable cloning vectors using any method well known in the art.

[0415] Once the nucleotide sequence and corresponding amino acid sequence of the antibody is determined, the nucleotide sequence of the antibody may be manipulated using methods well known in the art for the manipulation of nucleotide sequences, e.g., recombinant DNA techniques, site directed mutagenesis, PCR, etc. (see, for example, the techniques described in Sambrook et al., 1990, Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual, 2d Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY and Ausubel et al., eds., 1998, Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, NY, which are both incorporated by reference herein in their entireties ), to generate antibodies having a different amino acid sequence, for example to create amino acid substitutions, deletions, and/or insertions.

[0416] In a specific embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the heavy and/or light chain variable domains may be inspected to identify the sequences of the complementarity determining regions (CDRs) by methods that are well known in the art, e.g., by comparison to known amino acid sequences of other heavy and light chain variable regions to determine the regions of sequence hypervariability. Using routine recombinant DNA techniques, one or more of the CDRs may be inserted within framework regions, e.g., into human framework regions to humanize a non-human antibody, as described *supra*. The framework regions may be naturally occurring or consensus framework regions, and preferably human framework regions (see, e.g., Chothia et al., J. Mol. Biol. 278: 457-479 (1998) for a listing of human framework regions). Preferably, the polynucleotide generated by the combination of the framework regions and CDRs encodes an antibody that specifically binds a polypeptide of the invention. Preferably, as discussed *supra*, one or more amino acid substitutions may be made within the framework regions, and, preferably, the amino acid substitutions improve binding of the antibody to its antigen. Additionally, such methods may be used to make amino acid substitutions or deletions of one or more variable region cysteine residues participating in an intrachain disulfide bond to generate antibody molecules lacking one or more intrachain disulfide bonds. Other alterations to the polynucleotide are encompassed by the present invention and within the skill of the art.

[0417] In addition, techniques developed for the production of "chimeric antibodies" (Morrison et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 81:851-855 (1984); Neuberger et al., Nature 312:604-608 (1984); Takeda et al., Nature 314:452-454 (1985)) by splicing genes from a mouse antibody molecule of appropriate antigen specificity together with genes from a human antibody molecule of appropriate biological activity can be used. As described supra, a chimeric antibody is a molecule in which different portions are derived from different animal species, such as those having a variable region derived from a murine mAb and a human immunoglobulin constant region, e.g., humanized antibodies.

[0418] Alternatively, techniques described for the production of single chain antibodies (U.S. Patent No. 4,946,778; Bird, Science 242:423- 42 (1988); Huston et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85:5879-5883 (1988); and Ward et al., Nature 334:544-54 (1989)) can be adapted to produce single chain antibodies. Single chain antibodies are formed by linking the heavy and light chain fragments of the Fv region via an amino acid bridge, resulting in a single chain polypeptide. Techniques for the assembly of functional Fv fragments in *E. coli* may also be used (Skerra et al., Science 242:1038- 1041 (1988)).

#### ***METHODS OF PRODUCING ANTIBODIES***

[0419] The antibodies of the invention can be produced by any method known in the art for the synthesis of antibodies, in particular, by chemical synthesis or preferably, by recombinant expression techniques.

[0420] Recombinant expression of an antibody of the invention, or fragment, derivative or analog thereof, (e.g., a heavy or light chain of an antibody of the invention or a single chain antibody of the invention), requires construction of an expression vector containing a polynucleotide that encodes the antibody. Once a polynucleotide encoding an antibody molecule or a heavy or light chain of an antibody, or portion thereof (preferably containing the heavy or light chain variable domain), of the invention has been obtained, the vector for the production of the antibody molecule may be produced by recombinant DNA technology using techniques well known in the art. Thus, methods for preparing a protein by expressing a polynucleotide containing an antibody encoding nucleotide sequence are described herein. Methods which are well known to those skilled in the art can be used to construct expression vectors containing antibody coding

sequences and appropriate transcriptional and translational control signals. These methods include, for example, *in vitro* recombinant DNA techniques, synthetic techniques, and *in vivo* genetic recombination. The invention, thus, provides replicable vectors comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an antibody molecule of the invention, or a heavy or light chain thereof, or a heavy or light chain variable domain, operably linked to a promoter. Such vectors may include the nucleotide sequence encoding the constant region of the antibody molecule (see, e.g., PCT Publication WO 86/05807; PCT Publication WO 89/01036; and U.S. Patent No. 5,122,464) and the variable domain of the antibody may be cloned into such a vector for expression of the entire heavy or light chain.

[0421] The expression vector is transferred to a host cell by conventional techniques and the transfected cells are then cultured by conventional techniques to produce an antibody of the invention. Thus, the invention includes host cells containing a polynucleotide encoding an antibody of the invention, or a heavy or light chain thereof, or a single chain antibody of the invention, operably linked to a heterologous promoter. In preferred embodiments for the expression of double-chained antibodies, vectors encoding both the heavy and light chains may be co-expressed in the host cell for expression of the entire immunoglobulin molecule, as detailed below.

[0422] A variety of host-expression vector systems may be utilized to express the antibody molecules of the invention. Such host-expression systems represent vehicles by which the coding sequences of interest may be produced and subsequently purified, but also represent cells which may, when transformed or transfected with the appropriate nucleotide coding sequences, express an antibody molecule of the invention *in situ*. These include but are not limited to microorganisms such as bacteria (e.g., *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*) transformed with recombinant bacteriophage DNA, plasmid DNA or cosmid DNA expression vectors containing antibody coding sequences; yeast (e.g., *Saccharomyces*, *Pichia*) transformed with recombinant yeast expression vectors containing antibody coding sequences; insect cell systems infected with recombinant virus expression vectors (e.g., baculovirus) containing antibody coding sequences; plant cell systems infected with recombinant virus expression vectors (e.g., cauliflower mosaic virus, CaMV; tobacco mosaic virus, TMV) or transformed with recombinant plasmid expression vectors (e.g., Ti plasmid) containing antibody coding sequences; or mammalian cell systems (e.g.; COS, CHO, BHK, 293, 3T3 cells) harboring recombinant expression constructs containing

promoters derived from the genome of mammalian cells (e.g., metallothionein promoter) or from mammalian viruses (e.g., the adenovirus late promoter; the vaccinia virus 7.5K promoter). Preferably, bacterial cells such as *Escherichia coli*, and more preferably, eukaryotic cells, especially for the expression of whole recombinant antibody molecule, are used for the expression of a recombinant antibody molecule. For example, mammalian cells such as Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO), in conjunction with a vector such as the major intermediate early gene promoter element from human cytomegalovirus is an effective expression system for antibodies (Foecking et al., Gene 45:101 (1986); Cockett et al., Bio/Technology 8:2 (1990)).

[0423] In bacterial systems, a number of expression vectors may be advantageously selected depending upon the use intended for the antibody molecule being expressed. For example, when a large quantity of such a protein is to be produced, for the generation of pharmaceutical compositions of an antibody molecule, vectors which direct the expression of high levels of fusion protein products that are readily purified may be desirable. Such vectors include, but are not limited, to the *E. coli* expression vector pUR278 (Ruther et al., EMBO J. 2:1791 (1983)), in which the antibody coding sequence may be ligated individually into the vector in frame with the lac Z coding region so that a fusion protein is produced; pIN vectors (Inouye & Inouye, Nucleic Acids Res. 13:3101-3109 (1985); Van Heeke & Schuster, J. Biol. Chem. 24:5503-5509 (1989)); and the like. pGEX vectors may also be used to express foreign polypeptides as fusion proteins with glutathione S-transferase (GST). In general, such fusion proteins are soluble and can easily be purified from lysed cells by adsorption and binding to matrix glutathione-agarose beads followed by elution in the presence of free glutathione. The pGEX vectors are designed to include thrombin or factor Xa protease cleavage sites so that the cloned target gene product can be released from the GST moiety.

[0424] In an insect system, *Autographa californica* nuclear polyhedrosis virus (AcNPV) is used as a vector to express foreign genes. The virus grows in *Spodoptera frugiperda* cells. The antibody coding sequence may be cloned individually into non-essential regions (for example the polyhedrin gene) of the virus and placed under control of an AcNPV promoter (for example the polyhedrin promoter).

[0425] In mammalian host cells, a number of viral-based expression systems may be utilized. In cases where an adenovirus is used as an expression vector, the antibody

coding sequence of interest may be ligated to an adenovirus transcription/translation control complex, e.g., the late promoter and tripartite leader sequence. This chimeric gene may then be inserted in the adenovirus genome by *in vitro* or *in vivo* recombination. Insertion in a non-essential region of the viral genome (e.g., region E1 or E3) will result in a recombinant virus that is viable and capable of expressing the antibody molecule in infected hosts. (E.g., see Logan & Shenk, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 81:355-359 (1984)). Specific initiation signals may also be required for efficient translation of inserted antibody coding sequences. These signals include the ATG initiation codon and adjacent sequences. Furthermore, the initiation codon must be in phase with the reading frame of the desired coding sequence to ensure translation of the entire insert. These exogenous translational control signals and initiation codons can be of a variety of origins, both natural and synthetic. The efficiency of expression may be enhanced by the inclusion of appropriate transcription enhancer elements, transcription terminators, etc. (see Bittner et al., Methods in Enzymol. 153:51-544 (1987)).

[0426] In addition, a host cell strain may be chosen which modulates the expression of the inserted sequences, or modifies and processes the gene product in the specific fashion desired. Such modifications (e.g., glycosylation) and processing (e.g., cleavage) of protein products may be important for the function of the protein. Different host cells have characteristic and specific mechanisms for the post-translational processing and modification of proteins and gene products. Appropriate cell lines or host systems can be chosen to ensure the correct modification and processing of the foreign protein expressed. To this end, eukaryotic host cells which possess the cellular machinery for proper processing of the primary transcript, glycosylation, and phosphorylation of the gene product may be used. Such mammalian host cells include but are not limited to CHO, VERY, BHK, Hela, COS, MDCK, 293, 3T3, WI38, and in particular, breast cancer cell lines such as, for example, BT483, Hs578T, HTB2, BT20 and T47D, and normal mammary gland cell line such as, for example, CRL7030 and Hs578Bst.

[0427] For long-term, high-yield production of recombinant proteins, stable expression is preferred. For example, cell lines which stably express the antibody molecule may be engineered. Rather than using expression vectors which contain viral origins of replication, host cells can be transformed with DNA controlled by appropriate expression control elements (e.g., promoter, enhancer, sequences, transcription

terminators, polyadenylation sites, etc.), and a selectable marker. Following the introduction of the foreign DNA, engineered cells may be allowed to grow for 1-2 days in an enriched media, and then are switched to a selective media. The selectable marker in the recombinant plasmid confers resistance to the selection and allows cells to stably integrate the plasmid into their chromosomes and grow to form foci which in turn can be cloned and expanded into cell lines. This method may advantageously be used to engineer cell lines which express the antibody molecule. Such engineered cell lines may be particularly useful in screening and evaluation of compounds that interact directly or indirectly with the antibody molecule.

[0428] A number of selection systems may be used, including but not limited to the herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase (Wigler et al., Cell 11:223 (1977)), hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyltransferase (Szybalska & Szybalski, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:202 (1992)), and adenine phosphoribosyltransferase (Lowy et al., Cell 22:817 (1980)) genes can be employed in tk-, hprt- or aprt- cells, respectively. Also, antimetabolite resistance can be used as the basis of selection for the following genes: dhfr, which confers resistance to methotrexate (Wigler et al., Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 77:357 (1980); O'Hare et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 78:1527 (1981)); gpt, which confers resistance to mycophenolic acid (Mulligan & Berg, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 78:2072 (1981)); neo, which confers resistance to the aminoglycoside G-418 Clinical Pharmacy 12:488-505; Wu and Wu, Biotherapy 3:87-95 (1991); Tolstoshev, Ann. Rev. Pharmacol. Toxicol. 32:573-596 (1993); Mulligan, Science 260:926-932 (1993); and Morgan and Anderson, Ann. Rev. Biochem. 62:191-217 (1993); May, 1993, TIB TECH 11(5):155-215); and hygro, which confers resistance to hygromycin (Santerre et al., Gene 30:147 (1984)). Methods commonly known in the art of recombinant DNA technology may be routinely applied to select the desired recombinant clone, and such methods are described, for example, in Ausubel et al. (eds.), Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, NY (1993); Kriegler, Gene Transfer and Expression, A Laboratory Manual, Stockton Press, NY (1990); and in Chapters 12 and 13, Dracopoli et al. (eds), Current Protocols in Human Genetics, John Wiley & Sons, NY (1994); Colberre-Garapin et al., J. Mol. Biol. 150:1 (1981), which are incorporated by reference herein in their entireties.

[0429] The expression levels of an antibody molecule can be increased by vector amplification (for a review, see Bebbington and Hentschel, The use of vectors based on

gene amplification for the expression of cloned genes in mammalian cells in DNA cloning, Vol.3. (Academic Press, New York, 1987)). When a marker in the vector system expressing antibody is amplifiable, increase in the level of inhibitor present in culture of host cell will increase the number of copies of the marker gene. Since the amplified region is associated with the antibody gene, production of the antibody will also increase (Crouse et al., Mol. Cell. Biol. 3:257 (1983)).

[0430] The host cell may be co-transfected with two expression vectors of the invention, the first vector encoding a heavy chain derived polypeptide and the second vector encoding a light chain derived polypeptide. The two vectors may contain identical selectable markers which enable equal expression of heavy and light chain polypeptides. Alternatively, a single vector may be used which encodes, and is capable of expressing, both heavy and light chain polypeptides. In such situations, the light chain should be placed before the heavy chain to avoid an excess of toxic free heavy chain (Proudfoot, Nature 322:52 (1986); Kohler, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 77:2197 (1980)). The coding sequences for the heavy and light chains may comprise cDNA or genomic DNA.

[0431] Once an antibody molecule of the invention has been produced by an animal, chemically synthesized, or recombinantly expressed, it may be purified by any method known in the art for purification of an immunoglobulin molecule, for example, by chromatography (e.g., ion exchange, affinity, particularly by affinity for the specific antigen after Protein A, and sizing column chromatography), centrifugation, differential solubility, or by any other standard technique for the purification of proteins. In addition, the antibodies of the present invention or fragments thereof can be fused to heterologous polypeptide sequences described herein or otherwise known in the art, to facilitate purification.

[0432] The present invention encompasses antibodies recombinantly fused or chemically conjugated (including both covalent and non-covalent conjugations) to a polypeptide (or portion thereof, preferably at least 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90 or 100 amino acids of the polypeptide) of the present invention to generate fusion proteins. The fusion does not necessarily need to be direct, but may occur through linker sequences. The antibodies may be specific for antigens other than polypeptides (or portion thereof, preferably at least 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90 or 100 amino acids of the polypeptide) of the present invention. For example, antibodies may be used to target the polypeptides

of the present invention to particular cell types, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, by fusing or conjugating the polypeptides of the present invention to antibodies specific for particular cell surface receptors. Antibodies fused or conjugated to the polypeptides of the present invention may also be used in *in vitro* immunoassays and purification methods using methods known in the art. See e.g., Harbor et al., *supra*, and PCT publication WO 93/21232; EP 439,095; Naramura et al., Immunol. Lett. 39:91-99 (1994); U.S. Patent 5,474,981; Gillies et al., PNAS 89:1428-1432 (1992); Fell et al., J. Immunol. 146:2446-2452(1991), which are incorporated by reference in their entireties.

[0433] The present invention further includes compositions comprising the polypeptides of the present invention fused or conjugated to antibody domains other than the variable regions. For example, the polypeptides of the present invention may be fused or conjugated to an antibody Fc region, or portion thereof. The antibody portion fused to a polypeptide of the present invention may comprise the constant region, hinge region, CH1 domain, CH2 domain, and CH3 domain or any combination of whole domains or portions thereof. The polypeptides may also be fused or conjugated to the above antibody portions to form multimers. For example, Fc portions fused to the polypeptides of the present invention can form dimers through disulfide bonding between the Fc portions. Higher multimeric forms can be made by fusing the polypeptides to portions of IgA and IgM. Methods for fusing or conjugating the polypeptides of the present invention to antibody portions are known in the art. See, e.g., U.S. Patent Nos. 5,336,603; 5,622,929; 5,359,046; 5,349,053; 5,447,851; 5,112,946; EP 307,434; EP 367,166; PCT publications WO 96/04388; WO 91/06570; Ashkenazi et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88:10535-10539 (1991); Zheng et al., J. Immunol. 154:5590-5600 (1995); and Vil et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:11337- 11341(1992) (said references incorporated by reference in their entireties).

[0434] As discussed, *supra*, the polypeptides corresponding to a heteromultimeric complex, fragment, or a variant thereof may be fused or conjugated to the above antibody portions (e.g., at one or more of the individual polypeptide members) to increase the *in vivo* half life of the polypeptides or for use in immunoassays using methods known in the art. Further, the heteromultimeric complex, fragment, or a variant thereof may be fused or conjugated to the above antibody portions to facilitate purification. Also as discussed, *supra*, the polypeptides corresponding to heteromultimeric complex, fragment, or a variant

thereof may be fused or conjugated to the above antibody portions to increase the *in vivo* half life of the polypeptides or for use in immunoassays using methods known in the art. Moreover, the heteromultimeric complex, fragment, or a variant thereof may be fused or conjugated to the above antibody portions to facilitate purification. One reported example describes chimeric proteins consisting of the first two domains of the human CD4-polypeptide and various domains of the constant regions of the heavy or light chains of mammalian immunoglobulins. (EP 394,827; Traunecker et al., Nature 331:84-86 (1988). The polypeptides of the present invention fused or conjugated to an antibody having disulfide-linked dimeric structures (due to the IgG) may also be more efficient in binding and neutralizing other molecules, than the monomeric secreted protein or protein fragment alone. (Fountoulakis et al., J. Biochem. 270:3958-3964 (1995)). In many cases, the Fc part in a fusion protein is beneficial in therapy and diagnosis, and thus can result in, for example, improved pharmacokinetic properties. (EP A 232,262). Alternatively, deleting the Fc part after the fusion protein has been expressed, detected, and purified, would be desired. For example, the Fc portion may hinder therapy and diagnosis if the fusion protein is used as an antigen for immunizations. In drug discovery, for example, human proteins, such as hIL-5, have been fused with Fc portions for the purpose of high-throughput screening assays to identify antagonists of hIL-5. (See, Bennett et al., J. Molecular Recognition 8:52-58 (1995); Johanson et al., J. Biol. Chem. 270:9459-9471 (1995).

[0435] Moreover, the antibodies or fragments thereof of the present invention can be fused to marker sequences, such as a peptide to facilitate purification. In preferred embodiments, the marker amino acid sequence is a hexa-histidine peptide, such as the tag provided in a pQE vector (QIAGEN, Inc., 9259 Eton Avenue, Chatsworth, CA, 91311), among others, many of which are commercially available. As described in Gentz et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:821-824 (1989), for instance, hexa-histidine provides for convenient purification of the fusion protein. Other peptide tags useful for purification include, but are not limited to, the "HA" tag, which corresponds to an epitope derived from the influenza hemagglutinin protein (Wilson et al., Cell 37:767 (1984)) and the "flag" tag.

[0436] The present invention further encompasses antibodies or fragments thereof conjugated to a diagnostic or therapeutic agent. The antibodies can be used diagnostically

to, for example, monitor the development or progression of a tumor as part of a clinical testing procedure to, e.g., determine the efficacy of a given treatment regimen. Detection can be facilitated by coupling the antibody to a detectable substance. Examples of detectable substances include various enzymes, prosthetic groups, fluorescent materials, luminescent materials, bioluminescent materials, radioactive materials, positron emitting metals using various positron emission tomographies, and nonradioactive paramagnetic metal ions. The detectable substance may be coupled or conjugated either directly to the antibody (or fragment thereof) or indirectly, through an intermediate (such as, for example, a linker known in the art) using techniques known in the art. See, for example, U.S. Patent No. 4,741,900 for metal ions which can be conjugated to antibodies for use as diagnostics according to the present invention. Examples of suitable enzymes include horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, beta-galactosidase, or acetylcholinesterase; examples of suitable prosthetic group complexes include streptavidin/biotin and avidin/biotin; examples of suitable fluorescent materials include umbelliferone, fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, dichlorotriazinylamine fluorescein, dansyl chloride or phycoerythrin; an example of a luminescent material includes luminol; examples of bioluminescent materials include luciferase, luciferin, and aequorin; and examples of suitable radioactive material include iodine ( $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{123}\text{I}$ ,  $^{121}\text{I}$ ), carbon ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ), sulfur ( $^{35}\text{S}$ ), tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ ), indium ( $^{115m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{113m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{112}\text{In}$ ,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ), and technetium ( $^{99}\text{Tc}$ ,  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ ), thallium ( $^{201}\text{Ti}$ ), gallium ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ ,  $^{67}\text{Ga}$ ), palladium ( $^{103}\text{Pd}$ ), molybdenum ( $^{99}\text{Mo}$ ), xenon ( $^{133}\text{Xe}$ ), fluorine ( $^{18}\text{F}$ ),  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{149}\text{Pm}$ ,  $^{140}\text{La}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{186}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{188}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{142}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{105}\text{Rh}$ ,  $^{97}\text{Ru}$ ,  $^{68}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{57}\text{Co}$ ,  $^{65}\text{Zn}$ ,  $^{85}\text{Sr}$ ,  $^{32}\text{P}$ ,  $^{153}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{169}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{51}\text{Cr}$ ,  $^{54}\text{Mn}$ ,  $^{75}\text{Se}$ ,  $^{113}\text{Sn}$ , and  $^{117}\text{Tin}$ .

[0437] Further, an antibody or fragment thereof may be conjugated to a therapeutic moiety such as a cytotoxin, e.g., a cytostatic or cytocidal agent, a therapeutic agent or a radioactive metal ion, e.g., alpha-emitters such as, for example,  $^{213}\text{Bi}$ . In specific embodiments, antibodies of the invention are attached to macrocyclic chelators useful for conjugating radiometal ions, including but not limited to,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ , and  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ , to polypeptides. In preferred embodiments, the radiometal ion associated with the macrocyclic chelators attached to antibodies of the invention is  $^{111}\text{In}$ . In preferred embodiments, the radiometal ion associated with the macrocyclic chelators attached to antibodies of the invention is  $^{90}\text{Y}$ . In specific embodiments, the macrocyclic chelator is

1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-N,N',N'',N'''-tetraacetic acid (DOTA). In other specific embodiments, the DOTA is attached to the BLyS and/or BLySSV polypeptide of the invention via a linker molecule. Examples of linker molecules useful for conjugating DOTA to a polypeptide are commonly known in the art - see, for example, DeNardo et al., Clin Cancer Res. 4(10):2483-90 (1998); Peterson et al., Bioconjug. Chem. 10(4):553-7 (1999); and Zimmerman et al, Nucl. Med. Biol. 26(8):943-50 (1999) which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. In addition, U.S. Patents 5,652,361 and 5,756,065, which disclose chelating agents that may be conjugated to antibodies, and methods for making and using them, are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

[0438] A cytotoxin or cytotoxic agent includes any agent that is detrimental to cells and includes such molecules as small molecule toxins and enzymatically active toxins of bacterial, fungal, plant, or animal origin, or fragments thereof. Examples include paclitaxol, cytochalasin B, gramicidin D, ethidium bromide, emetine, mitomycin, etoposide (VP-16), teniposide, vincristine, vinblastine, colchicin, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, dihydroxy anthracin dione, mitoxantrone, mithramycin, actinomycin D, 1-dehydrotestosterone, glucocorticoids, procaine, tetracaine, lidocaine, propranolol, and puromycin and analogs or homologs thereof. Therapeutic agents include, but are not limited to, antimetabolites (e.g., methotrexate, 6-mercaptopurine, 6-thioguanine, cytarabine, 5-fluorouracil decarbazine), alkylating agents (e.g., mechlorethamine, thioepa, chlorambucil, melphalan, carmustine (BSNU) and lomustine (CCNU), cyclophosphamide, busulfan, dibromomannitol, streptozotocin, mitomycin C, and cis-dichlorodiamine platinum (II) (DDP) cisplatin), anthracyclines (e.g., daunorubicin (formerly daunomycin) and doxorubicin), antibiotics (e.g., dactinomycin (formerly actinomycin), bleomycin, mithramycin, and anthramycin (AMC)), and anti-mitotic agents (e.g., vincristine and vinblastine), imrosulfan, piposulfan, benzodopa, carboquone, meturedopa, uredopa, altretamine, triethylenemelamine, triethylenephosphoramide, triethylenethiophosphamide, trimethylololomelamine, chlornaphazine, chlophosphamide, estramustine, ifosfamide, novembichin, phenesterine, prednimustine, trofosfamide, uracil mustard, chlorozotocin, fotemustine, nimustine, ranimustine, aclacinomysins, azaserine, cactinomycin, calicheamicin, carabicin, carminomycin, carcinophilin, chromomycins, detorubicin, 6-diazo-5-oxo-L-norleucine, epirubicin,

esorubicin, idarubicin, marcellomycin, mycophenolic acid, nogalamycin, olivomycins, peplomycin, potfiromycin, quelamycin, rodorubicin, streptonigrin, tubercidin, ubenimex, zinostatin, zorubicin, denopterin, pteropterin, trimetrexate, fludarabine, thiamiprime, ancitabine, azacitidine, 6-azauridine, carmofur, dideoxyuridine, doxifluridine, enocitabine, floxuridine, 5-FU, calusterone, dromostanolone propionate, epitiostanol, mepitiostane, testolactone, aminoglutethimide, mitotane, trilostane, frolic acid, aceglatone, aldophosphamide glycoside, aminolevulinic acid, amsacrine, bestrabucil, bisantrene, edatraxate, defofamine, dernecolcine, diaziquone, el fornithine, elliptinium acetate, etoglucid, gallium nitrate, hydroxyurea, lentinan, lonidamine, mitoguazone, mopidamol, nitracrine, pentostatin, phenacetin, pirarubicin, podophyllinic acid, 2-ethylhydrazide, procarbazine, PSK-O, razoxane, sizofiran, spirogermanium, tenuazonic acid, triaziquone, 2, 2',2"-trichlorotriethylamine, urethan, vindesine, dacarbazine, mannomustine, mitobronitol, mitolactol, pipobroman, gacytosine, arabinoside ("Ara-C"), taxoids, e.g. paclitaxel (TAXOL®, Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology, Princeton, NJ) doxetaxel (TAXOTERE®, Rhône-Poulenc Rorer, Antony, France), gemcitabine, ifosfamide, vinorelbine, navelbine, novantrone, teniposide, aminopterin, xeloda, ibandronate, CPT-I 1, topoisomerase inhibitor RFS 2000, difluoromethylornithine (DMFO), retinoic acid, esperamicins, capecitabine, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, acids or derivatives of any of the above. Also included in this definition are anti-hormonal agents that act to regulate or inhibit hormone action on tumors such as anti-estrogens including for example tamoxifen, raloxifene, aromatase inhibiting 4(5)-imidazoles, 4 hydroxytamoxifen, trioxifene, keoxifene, LY 117018, onapristone, toremifene (Fareston), and anti-androgens such as flutamide, nilutamide, bicalutamide, leuprolide, and goserelin, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, acids or derivatives of any of the above.

[0439] The conjugates of the invention can be used for modifying a given biological response, the therapeutic agent or drug moiety is not to be construed as limited to classical chemical therapeutic agents. For example, the drug moiety may be a protein or polypeptide possessing a desired biological activity. Such proteins may include, for example, a toxin such as abrin, ricin A, pseudomonas exotoxin, or diphtheria toxin; a protein such as tumor necrosis factor, alpha-interferon, beta-interferon, nerve growth factor, platelet derived growth factor, tissue plasminogen activator, an apoptotic agent, e.g., TNF-alpha, TNF-beta, AIM I (See, International Publication No. WO 97/33899),

AIM II (See, International Publication No. WO 97/34911), Fas Ligand (Takahashi *et al.*, *Int. Immunol.*, 6:1567-1574 (1994)), VEGI (See, International Publication No. WO 99/23105), CD40 Ligand, a thrombotic agent or an anti- angiogenic agent, e.g., angiostatin or endostatin; or, biological response modifiers such as, for example, lymphokines, interleukin-1 ("IL-1"), interleukin-2 ("IL-2"), interleukin-6 ("IL-6"), granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor ("GM-CSF"), granulocyte colony stimulating factor ("G-CSF"), or other growth factors; and heteromultimeric complexes comprising the TNF ligand family members listed above.

[0440] Antibodies may also be attached to solid supports, which are particularly useful for immunoassays or purification of the target antigen. Such solid supports include, but are not limited to, glass, cellulose, polyacrylamide, nylon, polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride or polypropylene.

[0441] Techniques for conjugating such therapeutic moiety to antibodies are well known, see, e.g., Arnon *et al.*, "Monoclonal Antibodies For Immunotargeting Of Drugs In Cancer Therapy", in *Monoclonal Antibodies And Cancer Therapy*, Reisfeld *et al.* (eds.), pp. 243-56 (Alan R. Liss, Inc. 1985); Hellstrom *et al.*, "Antibodies For Drug Delivery", in *Controlled Drug Delivery* (2nd Ed.), Robinson *et al.* (eds.), pp. 623-53 (Marcel Dekker, Inc. 1987); Thorpe, "Antibody Carriers Of Cytotoxic Agents In Cancer Therapy: A Review", in *Monoclonal Antibodies '84: Biological And Clinical Applications*, Pinchera *et al.* (eds.), pp. 475-506 (1985); "Analysis, Results, And Future Prospective Of The Therapeutic Use Of Radiolabeled Antibody in Cancer Therapy", in *Monoclonal Antibodies For Cancer Detection And Therapy*, Baldwin *et al.* (eds.), pp. 303-16 (Academic Press 1985), and Thorpe *et al.*, "The Preparation And Cytotoxic Properties Of Antibody-Toxin Conjugates", *Immunol. Rev.* 62:119-58 (1982).

[0442] Alternatively, an antibody can be conjugated to a second antibody to form an antibody heteroconjugate as described by Segal in U.S. Patent No. 4,676,980, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0443] An antibody, with or without a therapeutic moiety conjugated to it, administered alone or in combination with cytotoxic factor(s) and/or cytokine(s) can be used as a therapeutic.

**IMMUNOPHENOTYPING**

[0444] The antibodies of the invention may be utilized for immunophenotyping of cell lines and biological samples. The translation product of the gene of the present invention may be useful as a cell specific marker, or more specifically as a cellular marker that is differentially expressed at various stages of differentiation and/or maturation of particular cell types. Monoclonal antibodies directed against a specific epitope, or combination of epitopes, will allow for the screening of cellular populations expressing the marker. Various techniques can be utilized using monoclonal antibodies to screen for cellular populations expressing the marker(s), and include magnetic separation using antibody-coated magnetic beads, "panning" with antibody attached to a solid matrix (i.e., plate), and flow cytometry (See, e.g., U.S. Patent 5,985,660; and Morrison *et al.*, *Cell*, 96:737-49 (1999)).

[0445] These techniques allow for the screening of particular populations of cells, such as might be found with hematological malignancies (i.e. minimal residual disease (MRD) in acute leukemic patients) and "non-self" cells in transplantations to prevent Graft-versus-Host Disease (GVHD). Alternatively, these techniques allow for the screening of hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells capable of undergoing proliferation and/or differentiation, as might be found in human umbilical cord blood.

**ASSAYS FOR ANTIBODY BINDING**

[0446] The antibodies of the invention may be assayed for immunospecific binding by any method known in the art. The immunoassays which can be used, include but are not limited to, competitive and non-competitive assay systems using techniques such as western blots, radioimmunoassays, ELISA (enzyme linked immunosorbent assay), "sandwich" immunoassays, immunoprecipitation assays, precipitin reactions, gel diffusion precipitin reactions, immunodiffusion assays, agglutination assays, complement-fixation assays, immunoradiometric assays, fluorescent immunoassays, protein A immunoassays, to name but a few. Such assays are routine and well known in the art (see, e.g., Ausubel *et al*, eds, 1994, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, Vol. 1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety). Exemplary immunoassays are described briefly below (but are not intended by way of limitation).

[0447] Immunoprecipitation protocols generally comprise lysing a population of cells in a lysis buffer such as RIPA buffer (1% NP-40 or Triton X-100, 1% sodium deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS, 0.15 M NaCl, 0.01 M sodium phosphate at pH 7.2, 1% Trasylol) supplemented with protein phosphatase and/or protease inhibitors (e.g., EDTA, PMSF, aprotinin, sodium vanadate), adding the antibody of interest to the cell lysate, incubating for a period of time (e.g., 1-4 hours) at 4 C, adding protein A and/or protein G sepharose beads to the cell lysate, incubating for about an hour or more at 4° C, washing the beads in lysis buffer and resuspending the beads in SDS/sample buffer. The ability of the antibody of interest to immunoprecipitate a particular antigen can be assessed by, e.g., western blot analysis. One of skill in the art would be knowledgeable as to the parameters that can be modified to increase the binding of the antibody to an antigen and decrease the background (e.g., pre-clearing the cell lysate with sepharose beads). For further discussion regarding immunoprecipitation protocols see, e.g., Ausubel et al, eds, 1994, Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, Vol. 1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York at 10.16.1.

[0448] Western blot analysis generally comprises preparing protein samples, electrophoresis of the protein samples in a polyacrylamide gel (e.g., 8%- 20% SDS-PAGE depending on the molecular weight of the antigen), transferring the protein sample from the polyacrylamide gel to a membrane such as nitrocellulose, PVDF or nylon, blocking the membrane in blocking solution (e.g., PBS with 3% BSA or non-fat milk), washing the membrane in washing buffer (e.g., PBS-Tween 20), blocking the membrane with primary antibody (the antibody of interest) diluted in blocking buffer, washing the membrane in washing buffer, blocking the membrane with a secondary antibody (which recognizes the primary antibody, e.g., an anti-human antibody) conjugated to an enzymatic substrate (e.g., horseradish peroxidase or alkaline phosphatase) or radioactive molecule (e.g., <sup>32</sup>P or <sup>125</sup>I) diluted in blocking buffer, washing the membrane in wash buffer, and detecting the presence of the antigen. One of skill in the art would be knowledgeable as to the parameters that can be modified to increase the signal detected and to reduce the background noise. For further discussion regarding western blot protocols see, e.g., Ausubel et al, eds, 1994, Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, Vol. 1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York at 10.8.1.

[0449] ELISAs comprise preparing antigen, coating the well of a 96 well microtiter plate with the antigen, adding the antibody of interest conjugated to a detectable compound such as an enzymatic substrate (e.g., horseradish peroxidase or alkaline phosphatase) to the well and incubating for a period of time, and detecting the presence of the antigen. In ELISAs the antibody of interest does not have to be conjugated to a detectable compound; instead, a second antibody (which recognizes the antibody of interest) conjugated to a detectable compound may be added to the well. Further, instead of coating the well with the antigen, the antibody may be coated to the well. In this case, a second antibody conjugated to a detectable compound may be added following the addition of the antigen of interest to the coated well. One of skill in the art would be knowledgeable as to the parameters that can be modified to increase the signal detected as well as other variations of ELISAs known in the art. For further discussion regarding ELISAs see, e.g., Ausubel et al, eds, 1994, Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, Vol. 1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York at 11.2.1.

[0450] The binding affinity of an antibody to an antigen and the off-rate of an antibody-antigen interaction can be determined by competitive binding assays. One example of a competitive binding assay is a radioimmunoassay comprising the incubation of labeled antigen (e.g., <sup>3</sup>H or <sup>125</sup>I) with the antibody of interest in the presence of increasing amounts of unlabeled antigen, and the detection of the antibody bound to the labeled antigen. The affinity of the antibody of interest for a particular antigen and the binding off-rates can be determined from the data by scatchard plot analysis. Competition with a second antibody can also be determined using radioimmunoassays. In this case, the antigen is incubated with antibody of interest conjugated to a labeled compound (e.g., <sup>3</sup>H or <sup>125</sup>I) in the presence of increasing amounts of an unlabeled second antibody.

### ***THERAPEUTIC USES***

[0451] The present invention is further directed to antibody-based therapies which involve administering antibodies of the invention to an animal, preferably a mammal, and most preferably a human, patient for treating one or more of the disclosed diseases, disorders, or conditions. Therapeutic compounds of the invention include, but are not limited to, antibodies of the invention (including fragments, analogs and derivatives

thereof as described herein) and nucleic acids encoding antibodies of the invention (including fragments, analogs and derivatives thereof and anti-idiotypic antibodies as described herein). The antibodies of the invention can be used to treat, inhibit or prevent diseases, disorders or conditions associated with aberrant expression and/or activity of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention and/or the receptor for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention (e.g., transmembrane activator and CAML interactor (TACI, GenBank accession number AAC51790), and B-cell maturation antigen (BCMA, GenBank accession number NP\_001183)), including, but not limited to, any one or more of the diseases, disorders, or conditions described herein (e.g., autoimmune diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with such diseases or disorders, including, but not limited to, autoimmune hemolytic anemia (including but not limited to cryoglobulinemia or Coombs positive anemia), autoimmune neonatal thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, autoimmunocytopenia, autoimmune neutropenia, hemolytic anemia, antiphospholipid syndrome, dermatitis (e.g., atopic dermatitis), allergic encephalomyelitis, myocarditis, relapsing polychondritis, rheumatic heart disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Neuritis, Uveitis Ophthalmia, Polyendocrinopathies, Purpura (e.g., Henloch-Scoenlein purpura), Reiter's Disease, Stiff-Man Syndrome, Autoimmune Pulmonary Inflammation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, diabetes mellitus (e.g., Type I diabetes mellitus or insulin dependent diabetes mellitus), juvenile onset diabetes, and autoimmune inflammatory eye, autoimmune thyroiditis, hypothyroidism (i.e., Hashimoto's thyroiditis, systemic lupus erythematosus, discoid lupus, Goodpasture's syndrome, Pemphigus, Receptor autoimmunities such as, for example, (a) Graves' Disease , (b) Myasthenia Gravis, and (c) insulin resistance, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura , rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma with anti-collagen antibodies, mixed connective tissue disease, polymyositis/dermatomyositis, pernicious anemia (Addison's disease), idiopathic Addison's disease, infertility, glomerulonephritis such as primary glomerulonephritis, IgA glomerulonephritis, and IgA nephropathy, bullous pemphigoid, Sjogren's syndrome, diabetes mellitus, and adrenergic drug resistance (including adrenergic drug resistance with asthma or cystic fibrosis), gluten sensitive enteropathy, dense deposit disease, chronic

active hepatitis, primary biliary cirrhosis, other endocrine gland failure, vitiligo, vasculitis, post-MI, cardiotomy syndrome, urticaria, atopic dermatitis, asthma, inflammatory myopathies, and other inflammatory, granulomatous, degenerative, and atrophic disorders) and other disorders such as inflammatory skin diseases including psoriasis and sclerosis, responses associated with inflammatory bowel disease (such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), respiratory distress syndrome (including adult respiratory distress syndrome, ARDS), meningitis, encephalitis, colitis, allergic conditions such as eczema and other conditions involving infiltration of T cells and chronic inflammatory responses, atherosclerosis, leukocyte adhesion deficiency, Reynaud's syndrome, and immune responses associated with acute and delayed hypersensitivity mediated by cytokines and T-lymphocytes typically found in tuberculosis, sarcoidosis, granulomatosis and diseases involving leukocyte diapedesis, central nervous system (CNS) inflammatory disorder, multiple organ injury syndrome, antigen-antibody complex mediated diseases, anti-glomerular basement membrane disease, Lambert-Eaton myasthenic syndrome, Beheet disease, giant cell arteritis, immune complex nephritis, IgA nephropathy, IgM polyneuropathies or autoimmune thrombocytopenia etc.

[0452] In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, inhibit, prognose, diagnose or prevent rheumatoid arthritis. In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, inhibit, prognose, diagnose or prevent advanced rheumatoid arthritis.

[0453] In another specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, inhibit, prognose, diagnose or prevent systemic lupus erythematosis.

[0454] For example, an antibody, or antibodies, of the present invention are used to treat patients with clinical diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA). The patient treated will not have a B cell malignancy. Moreover, the patient is optionally further treated with any one or more agents employed for treating RA such as salicylate; nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as indomethacin, phenylbutazone, phenylacetic acid derivatives (*e.g.* ibuprofen and fenoprofen), naphthalene acetic acids (naproxen), pyrrolealkanoic acid (tometin), indoleacetic acids (sulindac), halogenated anthranilic acid (meclofenamate sodium), piroxicam, zomepirac and diflunisal; antimalarials such as chloroquine; gold salts; penicillamine; or immunosuppressive agents such as methotrexate or corticosteroids in dosages known for such drugs or reduced dosages. Preferably

however, the patient is only treated with an antibody, or antibodies, of the present invention. Antibodies of the present invention are administered to the RA patient according to a dosing schedule as described *infra*, which may be readily determined by one of ordinary skill in the art. The primary response is determined by the Paulus index (Paulus et al. *Athritis Rheum.* 33:477-484 (1990)), *i.e.* improvement in morning stiffness, number of painful and inflamed joints, erythrocyte sedimentation (ESR), and at least a 2-point improvement on a 5-point scale of disease severity assessed by patient and by physician. Administration of an antibody, or antibodies, of the present invention will alleviate one or more of the symptoms of RA in the patient treated as described above.

[0455] In a further specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, inhibit, prognose, diagnose or prevent hemolytic anemia. For example, patients diagnosed with autoimmune hemolytic anemia (AIHA), *e.g.*, cryoglobulinemia or Coombs positive anemia, are treated with an antibody, or antibodies, of the present invention. AIHA is an acquired hemolytic anemia due to auto-antibodies that react with the patient's red blood cells. The patient treated will not have a B cell malignancy. Further adjunct therapies (such as glucocorticoids, prednisone, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide, vinca-laden platelets or Danazol) may be combined with the antibody therapy, but preferably the patient is treated with an antibody, or antibodies, of the present invention as a single-agent throughout the course of therapy. Antibodies of the present invention are administered to the hemolytic anemia patient according to a dosing schedule as described *infra*, which may be readily determined by one of ordinary skill in the art. Overall response rate is determined based upon an improvement in blood counts, decreased requirement for transfusions, improved hemoglobin levels and/or a decrease in the evidence of hemolysis as determined by standard chemical parameters. Administration of an antibody, or antibodies of the present invention will improve any one or more of the symptoms of hemolytic anemia in the patient treated as described above. For example, the patient treated as described above will show an increase in hemoglobin and an improvement in chemical parameters of hemolysis or return to normal as measured by serum lactic dehydrogenase and/or bilirubin.

[0456] In another specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, inhibit, prognose, diagnose or prevent adult immune thrombocytopenic purpura. Adult immune thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) is a relatively rare hematologic disorder that

constitutes the most common of the immune-mediated cytopenias. The disease typically presents with severe thrombocytopenia that may be associated with acute hemorrhage in the presence of normal to increased megakaryocytes in the bone marrow. Most patients with ITP have an IgG antibody directed against target antigens on the outer surface of the platelet membrane, resulting in platelet sequestration in the spleen and accelerated reticuloendothelial destruction of platelets (Bussell, J.B. Hematol. Oncol. Clin. North Am. (4):179 (1990)). A number of therapeutic interventions have been shown to be effective in the treatment of ITP. Steroids are generally considered first-line therapy, after which most patients are candidates for intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG), splenectomy, or other medical therapies including vincristine or immunosuppressive/cytotoxic agents. Up to 80% of patients with ITP initially respond to a course of steroids, but far fewer have complete and lasting remissions. Splenectomy has been recommended as standard second-line therapy for steroid failures, and leads to prolonged remission in nearly 60% of cases yet may result in reduced immunity to infection. Splenectomy is a major surgical procedure that may be associated with substantial morbidity (15%) and mortality (2%). IVIG has also been used as second line medical therapy, although only a small proportion of adult patients with ITP achieve remission. Therapeutic options that would interfere with the production of autoantibodies by activated B cells without the associated morbidities that occur with corticosteroids and/or splenectomy would provide an important treatment approach for a proportion of patients with ITP. Patients with clinical diagnosis of ITP are treated with an antibody, or antibodies of the present invention, optionally in combination with steroid therapy. The patient treated will not have a B cell malignancy. Antibodies of the present invention are administered to the RA patient according to a dosing schedule as described *infra*, which may be readily determined by one of ordinary skill in the art. Overall patient response rate is determined based upon a platelet count determined on two consecutive occasions two weeks apart following treatments as described above. See, George et al. "Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura: A Practice Guideline Developed by Explicit Methods for The American Society of Hematology", Blood 88:3-40 (1996), expressly incorporated herein by reference.

[0457] In other embodiments, antibody agonists of the invention are be used to treat, inhibit or prevent immunodeficiencies, and/or disorders, or conditions associated with immunodeficiencies. Such immunodeficiencies include, but are not limited to, severe

combined immunodeficiency (SCID)-X linked, SCID-autosomal, adenosine deaminase deficiency (ADA deficiency), X-linked agammaglobulinemia (XLA), Bruton's disease, congenital agammaglobulinemia, X-linked infantile agammaglobulinemia, acquired agammaglobulinemia, adult onset agammaglobulinemia, late-onset agammaglobulinemia, dysgammaglobulinemia, hypogammaglobulinemia, transient hypogammaglobulinemia of infancy, unspecified hypogammaglobulinemia, agammaglobulinemia, common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) (acquired), Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome (WAS), X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, non X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, selective IgA deficiency, IgG subclass deficiency (with or without IgA deficiency), antibody deficiency with normal or elevated Igs, immunodeficiency with thymoma, Ig heavy chain deletions, kappa chain deficiency, B cell lymphoproliferative disorder (BLPD), selective IgM immunodeficiency, recessive agammaglobulinemia (Swiss type), reticular dysgenesis, neonatal neutropenia, severe congenital leukopenia, thymic alymphoplasia-aplasia or dysplasia with immunodeficiency, ataxia-telangiectasia, short limbed dwarfism, X-linked lymphoproliferative syndrome (XLP), Nezelof syndrome-combined immunodeficiency with Igs, purine nucleoside phosphorylase deficiency (PNP), MHC Class II deficiency (Bare Lymphocyte Syndrome) and severe combined immunodeficiency.

[0458] In another specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, inhibit, prognose, diagnose or prevent CVID, or a subgroup of individuals having CVID.

[0459] In another specific embodiment, antibody agonists of the invention are used as an adjuvant to stimulate B cell proliferation, immunoglobulin production, and/or to enhance B cell survival.

[0460] The treatment and/or prevention of diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with aberrant expression and/or activity of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention and/or the receptor for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention (e.g., TACI, BCMA) includes, but is not limited to, alleviating symptoms associated with those diseases, disorders or conditions. The antibodies of the invention may also be used to target and kill cells expressing BLyS on their surface and/or cells having BLyS bound to their surface.

Antibodies of the invention may be provided in pharmaceutically acceptable compositions as known in the art or as described herein.

[0461] A summary of the ways in which the antibodies of the present invention may be used therapeutically includes binding polynucleotides or polypeptides of the present invention locally or systemically in the body or by direct cytotoxicity of the antibody, e.g. as mediated by complement (CDC) or by effector cells (ADCC). Some of these approaches are described in more detail below. Armed with the teachings provided herein, one of ordinary skill in the art will know how to use the antibodies of the present invention for diagnostic, monitoring or therapeutic purposes without undue experimentation.

[0462] The antibodies of this invention may be advantageously utilized in combination with other monoclonal or chimeric antibodies, or with lymphokines or hematopoietic growth factors (such as, e.g., IL-2, IL-3 and IL-7), for example, which serve to increase the number or activity of effector cells which interact with the antibodies.

[0463] The antibodies of the invention may be administered alone or in combination with other types of treatments (e.g., radiation therapy, chemotherapy, hormonal therapy, immunotherapy, anti-tumor agents, antibiotics, and immunoglobulin). Generally, administration of products of a species origin or species reactivity (in the case of antibodies) that is the same species as that of the patient is preferred. Thus, in a preferred embodiment, human antibodies, fragments derivatives, analogs, or nucleic acids, are administered to a human patient for therapy or prophylaxis.

[0464] It is preferred to use high affinity and/or potent in vivo inhibiting and/or neutralizing antibodies against heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention, fragments or regions thereof, for both immunoassays directed to and therapy of disorders related to aberrant expression and/or activity of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention and/or the receptors for heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention. Such antibodies, fragments, or regions, will preferably have an affinity for polynucleotides or polypeptides of the invention, including fragments thereof. Preferred

binding affinities include those with a dissociation constant or Kd less than  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M,  $10^{-5}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $10^{-6}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-7}$  M,  $10^{-7}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-8}$  M,  $10^{-8}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-9}$  M,  $10^{-9}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-10}$  M,  $10^{-10}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-11}$  M,  $10^{-11}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-12}$  M,  $10^{-12}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-13}$  M,  $10^{-13}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-14}$  M,  $10^{-14}$  M,  $5 \times 10^{-15}$  M, and  $10^{-15}$  M.

### ***GENE THERAPY***

[0465] In a specific embodiment, nucleic acids comprising sequences encoding antibodies or functional derivatives thereof, are administered to treat, inhibit or prevent a disease or disorder associated with aberrant expression and/or activity of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention and/or the receptor for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention, by way of gene therapy. Gene therapy refers to therapy performed by the administration to a subject of an expressed or expressible nucleic acid. In this embodiment of the invention, the nucleic acids produce their encoded protein that mediates a therapeutic effect.

[0466] Any of the methods for gene therapy available in the art can be used according to the present invention. Exemplary methods are described below.

[0467] For general reviews of the methods of gene therapy, see Goldspiel et al., Clinical Pharmacy 12:488-505 (1993); Wu and Wu, Biotherapy 3:87-95 (1991); Tolstoshev, Ann. Rev. Pharmacol. Toxicol. 32:573-596 (1993); Mulligan, Science 260:926-932 (1993); and Morgan and Anderson, Ann. Rev. Biochem. 62:191-217 (1993); May, TIBTECH 11(5):155-215 (1993). Methods commonly known in the art of recombinant DNA technology which can be used are described in Ausubel et al. (eds.), Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, NY (1993); and Kriegler, Gene Transfer and Expression, A Laboratory Manual, Stockton Press, NY (1990).

[0468] In a preferred embodiment, the compound comprises nucleic acid sequences encoding an antibody, said nucleic acid sequences being part of expression vectors that express the antibody or fragments or chimeric proteins or heavy or light chains thereof in a suitable host. In particular, such nucleic acid sequences have promoters operably linked to

the antibody coding region, said promoter being inducible or constitutive, and, optionally, tissue-specific. In another particular embodiment, nucleic acid molecules are used in which the antibody coding sequences and any other desired sequences are flanked by regions that promote homologous recombination at a desired site in the genome, thus providing for intrachromosomal expression of the antibody encoding nucleic acids (Koller and Smithies, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:8932-8935 (1989); Zijlstra et al., Nature 342:435-438 (1989). In specific embodiments, the expressed antibody molecule is a single chain antibody; alternatively, the nucleic acid sequences include sequences encoding both the heavy and light chains, or fragments thereof, of the antibody.

[0469] Delivery of the nucleic acids into a patient may be either direct, in which case the patient is directly exposed to the nucleic acid or nucleic acid-carrying vectors, or indirect, in which case, cells are first transformed with the nucleic acids *in vitro*, then transplanted into the patient. These two approaches are known, respectively, as *in vivo* or *ex vivo* gene therapy.

[0470] In a specific embodiment, the nucleic acid sequences are directly administered *in vivo*, where it is expressed to produce the encoded product. This can be accomplished by any of numerous methods known in the art, e.g., by constructing them as part of an appropriate nucleic acid expression vector and administering it so that they become intracellular, e.g., by infection using defective or attenuated retrovirals or other viral vectors (see U.S. Patent No. 4,980,286), or by direct injection of naked DNA, or by use of microparticle bombardment (e.g., a gene gun; Biolistic, Dupont), or coating with lipids or cell-surface receptors or transfecting agents, encapsulation in liposomes, microparticles, or microcapsules, or by administering them in linkage to a peptide which is known to enter the nucleus, by administering it in linkage to a ligand subject to receptor-mediated endocytosis (see, e.g., Wu and Wu, J. Biol. Chem. 262:4429-4432 (1987)) (which can be used to target cell types specifically expressing the receptors), etc. In another embodiment, nucleic acid-ligand complexes can be formed in which the ligand comprises a fusogenic viral peptide to disrupt endosomes, allowing the nucleic acid to avoid lysosomal degradation. In yet another embodiment, the nucleic acid can be targeted *in vivo* for cell specific uptake and expression, by targeting a specific receptor (see, e.g., PCT Publications WO 92/06180; WO 92/22635; WO92/20316; WO93/14188, WO 93/20221). Alternatively, the nucleic acid can be introduced intracellularly and incorporated within

host cell DNA for expression, by homologous recombination (Koller and Smithies, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:8932-8935 (1989); Zijlstra et al., Nature 342:435-438 (1989)).

[0471] In a specific embodiment, viral vectors that contain nucleic acid sequences encoding an antibody of the invention are used. For example, a retroviral vector can be used (see Miller et al., Meth. Enzymol. 217:581-599 (1993)). These retroviral vectors contain the components necessary for the correct packaging of the viral genome and integration into the host cell DNA. The nucleic acid sequences encoding the antibody to be used in gene therapy are cloned into one or more vectors, which facilitates delivery of the gene into a patient. More detail about retroviral vectors can be found in Boesen et al., Biotherapy 6:291-302 (1994), which describes the use of a retroviral vector to deliver the mdr1 gene to hematopoietic stem cells in order to make the stem cells more resistant to chemotherapy. Other references illustrating the use of retroviral vectors in gene therapy are: Clowes et al., J. Clin. Invest. 93:644-651 (1994); Kiem et al., Blood 83:1467-1473 (1994); Salmons and Gunzberg, Human Gene Therapy 4:129-141 (1993); and Grossman and Wilson, Curr. Opin. in Genetics and Devel. 3:110-114 (1993).

[0472] Adenoviruses are other viral vectors that can be used in gene therapy. Adenoviruses are especially attractive vehicles for delivering genes to respiratory epithelia. Adenoviruses naturally infect respiratory epithelia where they cause a mild disease. Other targets for adenovirus-based delivery systems are liver, the central nervous system, endothelial cells, and muscle. Adenoviruses have the advantage of being capable of infecting non-dividing cells. Kozarsky and Wilson, Current Opinion in Genetics and Development 3:499-503 (1993) present a review of adenovirus-based gene therapy. Bout et al., Human Gene Therapy 5:3-10 (1994) demonstrated the use of adenovirus vectors to transfer genes to the respiratory epithelia of rhesus monkeys. Other instances of the use of adenoviruses in gene therapy can be found in Rosenfeld et al., Science 252:431-434 (1991); Rosenfeld et al., Cell 68:143- 155 (1992); Mastrangeli et al., J. Clin. Invest. 91:225-234 (1993); PCT Publication WO94/12649; and Wang, et al., Gene Therapy 2:775-783 (1995). In a preferred embodiment, adenovirus vectors are used.

[0473] Adeno-associated virus (AAV) has also been proposed for use in gene therapy (Walsh et al., Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. Med. 204:289-300 (1993); U.S. Patent No. 5,436,146).

[0474] Another approach to gene therapy involves transferring a gene to cells in tissue culture by such methods as electroporation, lipofection, calcium phosphate mediated

transfection, or viral infection. Usually, the method of transfer includes the transfer of a selectable marker to the cells. The cells are then placed under selection to isolate those cells that have taken up and are expressing the transferred gene. Those cells are then delivered to a patient.

[0475] In this embodiment, the nucleic acid is introduced into a cell prior to administration in vivo of the resulting recombinant cell. Such introduction can be carried out by any method known in the art, including but not limited to transfection, electroporation, microinjection, infection with a viral or bacteriophage vector containing the nucleic acid sequences, cell fusion, chromosome-mediated gene transfer, microcell-mediated gene transfer, spheroplast fusion, etc. Numerous techniques are known in the art for the introduction of foreign genes into cells (see, e.g., Loeffler and Behr, Meth. Enzymol. 217:599-618 (1993); Cohen et al., Meth. Enzymol. 217:618-644 (1993); Clin., Pharmac. Ther. 29:69-92m (1985) and may be used in accordance with the present invention, provided that the necessary developmental and physiological functions of the recipient cells are not disrupted. The technique should provide for the stable transfer of the nucleic acid to the cell, so that the nucleic acid is expressible by the cell and preferably heritable and expressible by its cell progeny.

[0476] The resulting recombinant cells can be delivered to a patient by various methods known in the art. Recombinant blood cells (e.g., hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells) are preferably administered intravenously. The amount of cells envisioned for use depends on the desired effect, patient state, etc., and can be determined by one skilled in the art.

[0477] Cells into which a nucleic acid can be introduced for purposes of gene therapy encompass any desired, available cell type, and include, but are not limited to, epithelial cells, endothelial cells, keratinocytes, fibroblasts, muscle cells, hepatocytes; blood cells such as T lymphocytes, B lymphocytes, monocytes, macrophages, neutrophils, eosinophils, megakaryocytes, granulocytes; various stem or progenitor cells, in particular hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells, e.g., as obtained from bone marrow, umbilical cord blood, peripheral blood, fetal liver, etc.

[0478] In a preferred embodiment, the cell used for gene therapy is autologous to the patient.

[0479] In an embodiment in which recombinant cells are used in gene therapy, nucleic acid sequences encoding an antibody are introduced into the cells such that they are expressible by the cells or their progeny, and the recombinant cells are then administered *in vivo* for therapeutic effect. In a specific embodiment, stem or progenitor cells are used. Any stem and/or progenitor cells which can be isolated and maintained *in vitro* can potentially be used in accordance with this embodiment of the present invention (see e.g. PCT Publication WO 94/08598; Stemple and Anderson, Cell 71:973-985 (1992); Rheinwald, Meth. Cell Bio. 21A:229 (1980); and Pittelkow and Scott, Mayo Clinic Proc. 61:771 (1986)).

[0480] In a specific embodiment, the nucleic acid to be introduced for purposes of gene therapy comprises an inducible promoter operably linked to the coding region, such that expression of the nucleic acid is controllable by controlling the presence or absence of the appropriate inducer of transcription.

#### ***DEMONSTRATION OF THERAPEUTIC OR PROPHYLACTIC ACTIVITY***

[0481] The compounds or pharmaceutical compositions of the invention are preferably tested *in vitro*, and then *in vivo* for the desired therapeutic or prophylactic activity, prior to use in humans. For example, *in vitro* assays to demonstrate the therapeutic or prophylactic utility of a compound or pharmaceutical composition include, the effect of a compound on a cell line or a patient tissue sample. The effect of the compound or composition on the cell line and/or tissue sample can be determined utilizing techniques known to those of skill in the art including, but not limited to, rosette formation assays and cell lysis assays. In accordance with the invention, *in vitro* assays which can be used to determine whether administration of a specific compound is indicated, include *in vitro* cell culture assays in which a patient tissue sample is grown in culture, and exposed to or otherwise administered a compound, and the effect of such compound upon the tissue sample is observed.

***THERAPEUTIC AND/OR PROPHYLACTIC ADMINISTRATION AND COMPOSITION***

[0482] The invention provides methods of treatment, inhibition and prophylaxis by administration to a subject of an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of the invention, preferably an antibody of the invention. In a preferred embodiment, the compound is substantially purified (e.g., substantially free from substances that limit its effect or produce undesired side effects). The subject is preferably an animal, including but not limited to animals such as cows, pigs, horses, chickens, cats, dogs, etc., and is preferably a mammal, and most preferably human.

[0483] Formulations and methods of administration that can be employed when the compound comprises a nucleic acid or an immunoglobulin are described above; additional appropriate formulations and routes of administration can be selected from among those described herein below.

[0484] Various delivery systems are known and can be used to administer a compound of the invention, e.g., encapsulation in liposomes, microparticles, microcapsules, recombinant cells capable of expressing the compound, receptor-mediated endocytosis (see, e.g., Wu and Wu, J. Biol. Chem. 262:4429-4432 (1987)), construction of a nucleic acid as part of a retroviral or other vector, etc. Methods of introduction include but are not limited to intradermal, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, intranasal, epidural, and oral routes. The compounds or compositions may be administered by any convenient route, for example by infusion or bolus injection, by absorption through epithelial or mucocutaneous linings (e.g., oral mucosa, rectal and intestinal mucosa, etc.) and may be administered together with other biologically active agents. Administration can be systemic or local. In addition, it may be desirable to introduce the pharmaceutical compounds or compositions of the invention into the central nervous system by any suitable route, including intraventricular and intrathecal injection; intraventricular injection may be facilitated by an intraventricular catheter, for example, attached to a reservoir, such as an Ommaya reservoir. Pulmonary administration can also be employed, e.g., by use of an inhaler or nebulizer, and formulation with an aerosolizing agent.

[0485] In a specific embodiment, it may be desirable to administer the pharmaceutical compounds or compositions of the invention locally to the area in need of treatment; this

may be achieved by, for example, and not by way of limitation, local infusion during surgery, topical application, e.g., in conjunction with a wound dressing after surgery, by injection, by means of a catheter, by means of a suppository, or by means of an implant, said implant being of a porous, non-porous, or gelatinous material, including membranes, such as sialastic membranes, or fibers. Preferably, when administering a protein, including an antibody, of the invention, care must be taken to use materials to which the protein does not absorb.

[0486] In another embodiment, the compound or composition can be delivered in a vesicle, in particular a liposome (see Langer, *Science* 249:1527-1533 (1990); Treat et al., in *Liposomes in the Therapy of Infectious Disease and Cancer*, Lopez-Berestein and Fidler (eds.), Liss, New York, pp. 353- 365 (1989); Lopez-Berestein, *ibid.*, pp. 317-327; see generally *ibid.*)

[0487] In yet another embodiment, the compound or composition can be delivered in a controlled release system. In one embodiment, a pump may be used (see Langer, *supra*; Sefton, *CRC Crit. Ref. Biomed. Eng.* 14:201 (1987); Buchwald et al., *Surgery* 88:507 (1980); Saudek et al., *N. Engl. J. Med.* 321:574 (1989)). In another embodiment, polymeric materials can be used (see *Medical Applications of Controlled Release*, Langer and Wise (eds.), CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida (1974); *Controlled Drug Bioavailability, Drug Product Design and Performance*, Smolen and Ball (eds.), Wiley, New York (1984); Ranger and Peppas, *J. Macromol. Sci. Rev. Macromol. Chem.* 23:61 (1983); see also Levy et al., *Science* 228:190 (1985); During et al., *Ann. Neurol.* 25:351 (1989); Howard et al., *J. Neurosurg.* 71:105 (1989)). In yet another embodiment, a controlled release system can be placed in proximity of the therapeutic target, i.e., the brain, thus requiring only a fraction of the systemic dose (see, e.g., Goodson, in *Medical Applications of Controlled Release*, *supra*, vol. 2, pp. 115-138 (1984)).

[0488] Other controlled release systems are discussed in the review by Langer (*Science* 249:1527-1533 (1990)).

[0489] In a specific embodiment where the compound of the invention is a nucleic acid encoding a protein, the nucleic acid can be administered *in vivo* to promote expression of its encoded protein, by constructing it as part of an appropriate nucleic acid expression vector and administering it so that it becomes intracellular, e.g., by use of a retroviral vector (see U.S. Patent No. 4,980,286), or by direct injection, or by use of

microparticle bombardment (e.g., a gene gun; Biolistic, Dupont), or coating with lipids or cell-surface receptors or transfecting agents, or by administering it in linkage to a homeobox-like peptide which is known to enter the nucleus (see e.g., Joliot et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88:1864-1868 (1991)), etc. Alternatively, a nucleic acid can be introduced intracellularly and incorporated within host cell DNA for expression, by homologous recombination.

[0490] The present invention also provides pharmaceutical compositions. Such compositions comprise a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In a specific embodiment, the term "pharmaceutically acceptable" means approved by a regulatory agency of the Federal or a state government or listed in the U.S. Pharmacopeia or other generally recognized pharmacopeia for use in animals, and more particularly in humans. The term "carrier" refers to a diluent, adjuvant, excipient, or vehicle with which the therapeutic is administered. Such pharmaceutical carriers can be sterile liquids, such as water and oils, including those of petroleum, animal, vegetable or synthetic origin, such as peanut oil, soybean oil, mineral oil, sesame oil and the like. Water is a preferred carrier when the pharmaceutical composition is administered intravenously. Saline solutions and aqueous dextrose and glycerol solutions can also be employed as liquid carriers, particularly for injectable solutions. Suitable pharmaceutical excipients include starch, glucose, lactose, sucrose, gelatin, malt, rice, flour, chalk, silica gel, sodium stearate, glycerol monostearate, talc, sodium chloride, dried skim milk, glycerol, propylene, glycol, water, ethanol and the like. The composition, if desired, can also contain minor amounts of wetting or emulsifying agents, or pH buffering agents. These compositions can take the form of solutions, suspensions, emulsion, tablets, pills, capsules, powders, sustained-release formulations and the like. The composition can be formulated as a suppository, with traditional binders and carriers such as triglycerides. Oral formulation can include standard carriers such as pharmaceutical grades of mannitol, lactose, starch, magnesium stearate, sodium saccharine, cellulose, magnesium carbonate, etc. Examples of suitable pharmaceutical carriers are described in "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences" by E.W. Martin. Such compositions will contain a therapeutically effective amount of the compound, preferably in purified form, together with a suitable amount of carrier so as to

provide the form for proper administration to the patient. The formulation should suit the mode of administration.

[0491] In a preferred embodiment, the composition is formulated in accordance with routine procedures as a pharmaceutical composition adapted for intravenous administration to human beings. Typically, compositions for intravenous administration are solutions in sterile isotonic aqueous buffer. Where necessary, the composition may also include a solubilizing agent and a local anesthetic such as lignocaine to ease pain at the site of the injection. Generally, the ingredients are supplied either separately or mixed together in unit dosage form, for example, as a dry lyophilized powder or water free concentrate in a hermetically sealed container such as an ampoule or sachette indicating the quantity of active agent. Where the composition is to be administered by infusion, it can be dispensed with an infusion bottle containing sterile pharmaceutical grade water or saline. Where the composition is administered by injection, an ampoule of sterile water for injection or saline can be provided so that the ingredients may be mixed prior to administration.

[0492] The compounds of the invention can be formulated as neutral or salt forms. Pharmaceutically acceptable salts include those formed with anions such as those derived from hydrochloric, phosphoric, acetic, oxalic, tartaric acids, etc., and those formed with cations such as those derived from sodium, potassium, ammonium, calcium, ferric hydroxides, isopropylamine, triethylamine, 2-ethylamino ethanol, histidine, procaine, etc.

[0493] The amount of the compound of the invention which will be effective in the treatment, inhibition and prevention of a disease or disorder associated with aberrant expression and/or activity of a polypeptide of the invention can be determined by standard clinical techniques. In addition, *in vitro* assays may optionally be employed to help identify optimal dosage ranges. The precise dose to be employed in the formulation will also depend on the route of administration, and the seriousness of the disease or disorder, and should be decided according to the judgment of the practitioner and each patient's circumstances. Effective doses may be extrapolated from dose-response curves derived from *in vitro* or animal model test systems.

[0494] For antibodies, the dosage administered to a patient is typically 0.1 mg/kg to 100 mg/kg of the patient's body weight. Preferably, the dosage administered to a patient is between 0.1 mg/kg and 20 mg/kg of the patient's body weight, more preferably 1 mg/kg

to 10 mg/kg of the patient's body weight. Generally, human antibodies have a longer half-life within the human body than antibodies from other species due to the immune response to the foreign polypeptides. Thus, lower dosages of human antibodies and less frequent administration is often possible. Further, the dosage and frequency of administration of antibodies of the invention may be reduced by enhancing uptake and tissue penetration (e.g., into the brain) of the antibodies by modifications such as, for example, lipidation.

[0495] The invention also provides a pharmaceutical pack or kit comprising one or more containers filled with one or more of the ingredients of the pharmaceutical compositions of the invention. Optionally associated with such container(s) can be a notice in the form prescribed by a governmental agency regulating the manufacture, use or sale of pharmaceuticals or biological products, which notice reflects approval by the agency of manufacture, use or sale for human administration.

#### ***DIAGNOSIS AND IMAGING***

[0496] Labeled antibodies, and derivatives and analogs thereof, which specifically bind to a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest can be used for diagnostic purposes to detect, diagnose, or monitor diseases and/or disorders associated with the aberrant expression and/or activity of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention and/or the receptor for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention. The invention provides for the detection of aberrant expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest, comprising (a) assaying the level of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest in cells or body fluid of an individual using one or more antibodies specific to the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest and (b) comparing the level of heteromultimeric polypeptide complex with a standard heteromultimeric polypeptide complex level, whereby an increase or decrease in the assayed level compared to the standard level is indicative of aberrant expression.

[0497] The invention provides a diagnostic assay for diagnosing a disorder, comprising (a) assaying the level of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest

in cells or body fluid of an individual using one or more antibodies specific to the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest and (b) comparing the level of heteromultimeric polypeptide complex with a standard heteromultimeric polypeptide complex level, whereby an increase or decrease in the assayed level compared to the standard level is indicative of a particular disorder. With respect to cancer, the presence of a relatively high level in biopsied tissue from an individual may indicate a predisposition for the development of the disease, or may provide a means for detecting the disease prior to the appearance of actual clinical symptoms. A more definitive diagnosis of this type may allow health professionals to employ preventative measures or aggressive treatment earlier thereby preventing the development or further progression of the cancer.

[0498] Antibodies of the invention can be used to assay levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in a biological sample using classical immunohistological methods known to those of skill in the art (e.g., see Jalkanen, et al., *J. Cell. Biol.* 101:976-985 (1985); Jalkanen, et al., *J. Cell. Biol.* 105:3087-3096 (1987)). Other antibody-based methods useful for detecting protein gene expression include immunoassays, such as the enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) and the radioimmunoassay (RIA). Suitable antibody assay labels are known in the art and include enzyme labels, such as, glucose oxidase; radioisotopes, such as iodine ( $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{123}\text{I}$ ,  $^{121}\text{I}$ ), carbon ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ), sulfur ( $^{35}\text{S}$ ), tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ ), indium ( $^{115m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{113m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{112}\text{In}$ ,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ), and technetium ( $^{99}\text{Tc}$ ,  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ ), thallium ( $^{201}\text{Ti}$ ), gallium ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ ,  $^{67}\text{Ga}$ ), palladium ( $^{103}\text{Pd}$ ), molybdenum ( $^{99}\text{Mo}$ ), xenon ( $^{133}\text{Xe}$ ), fluorine ( $^{18}\text{F}$ ),  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{149}\text{Pm}$ ,  $^{140}\text{La}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{186}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{188}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{142}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{105}\text{Rh}$ ,  $^{97}\text{Ru}$ ; luminescent labels, such as luminol; and fluorescent labels, such as fluorescein and rhodamine, and biotin.

[0499] In specific embodiments, antibodies of the invention are attached to macrocyclic chelators useful for conjugating radiometal ions, including but not limited to,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ , and  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ , to polypeptides. In a preferred embodiment, the radiometal ion associated with the macrocyclic chelator attached to antibodies of the invention is  $^{111}\text{In}$ . In another preferred embodiment, the radiometal ion associated with the macrocyclic chelator attached to antibodies of the invention is  $^{90}\text{Y}$ . In specific embodiments, the macrocyclic chelator is 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-N,N',N'',N'''-tetraacetic acid (DOTA). In other specific embodiments, the DOTA is attached to the BLyS and/or BLySSV polypeptide of the invention via a linker molecule. Examples of

linker molecules useful for conjugating DOTA to a polypeptide are commonly known in the art - see, for example, DeNardo et al., Clin Cancer Res. 4(10):2483-90, 1998; Peterson et al., Bioconjug. Chem. 10(4):553-7, 1999; and Zimmerman et al, Nucl. Med. Biol. 26(8):943-50, 1999 which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

[0500] Techniques known in the art may be applied to label antibodies of the invention. Such techniques include, but are not limited to, the use of bifunctional conjugating agents (see e.g., U.S. Patent Nos. 5,756,065; 5,714,631; 5,696,239; 5,652,361; 5,505,931; 5,489,425; 5,435,990; 5,428,139; 5,342,604; 5,274,119; 4,994,560; and 5,808,003; the contents of each of which are hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety) and direct coupling reactions (e.g., Bolton-Hunter and Chloramine-T reaction).

[0501] One embodiment of the invention is the detection and diagnosis of a disease or disorder associated with aberrant expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention and/or the receptor for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention in an animal, preferably a mammal and most preferably a human. In one embodiment, diagnosis comprises: (a) administering (for example, parenterally, subcutaneously, or intraperitoneally) to a subject an effective amount of a labeled molecule which specifically binds to the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest; (b) waiting for a time interval following the administering for permitting the labeled molecule to preferentially concentrate at sites in the subject where the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex is expressed (and for unbound labeled molecule to be cleared to background level); (c) determining background level; and (d) detecting the labeled molecule in the subject, such that detection of labeled molecule above the background level indicates that the subject has a particular disease or disorder associated with aberrant expression of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention and/or the receptor for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention. Background level can be determined by various methods including, comparing the amount of labeled molecule detected to a standard value previously determined for a particular system. As described

herein, specific embodiments of the invention are directed to the use of the antibodies of the invention to quantitate or qualitate concentrations of cells of B cell lineage or cells of monocytic lineage.

[0502] Also as described herein, antibodies of the invention may be used to treat, diagnose, or prognose an individual having an immunodeficiency. In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, diagnose, and/or prognose an individual having common variable immunodeficiency disease (CVID) or a subset of this disease. In another embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to diagnose, prognose, treat or prevent a disorder characterized by deficient serum immunoglobulin production, recurrent infections, and/or immune system dysfunction.

[0503] Also as described herein, antibodies of the invention may be used to treat, diagnose, or prognose an individual having an autoimmune disease or disorder. In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, diagnose, and/or prognose an individual having systemic lupus erythematosus, or a subset of the disease. In another specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, diagnose and/or prognose an individual having rheumatoid arthritis, or a subset of this disease.

[0504] It will be understood in the art that the size of the subject and the imaging system used will determine the quantity of imaging moiety needed to produce diagnostic images. In the case of a radioisotope moiety, for a human subject, the quantity of radioactivity injected will normally range from about 5 to 20 millicuries of  $^{99}\text{mTc}$ . The labeled antibody or antibody fragment will then preferentially accumulate at the location of cells which contain the specific protein. *In vivo* tumor imaging is described in S.W. Burchiel et al., "Immunopharmacokinetics of Radiolabeled Antibodies and Their Fragments." (Chapter 13 in Tumor Imaging: The Radiochemical Detection of Cancer, S.W. Burchiel and B. A. Rhodes, eds., Masson Publishing Inc. (1982).

[0505] Depending on several variables, including the type of label used and the mode of administration, the time interval following the administration for permitting the labeled molecule to preferentially concentrate at sites in the subject and for unbound labeled molecule to be cleared to background level is 6 to 48 hours or 6 to 24 hours or 6 to 12 hours. In another embodiment the time interval following administration is 5 to 20 days or 5 to 10 days.

[0506] In an embodiment, monitoring of the disease or disorder is carried out by repeating the method for diagnosing the disease or disease, for example, one month after initial diagnosis, six months after initial diagnosis, one year after initial diagnosis, etc.

[0507] Presence of the labeled molecule can be detected in the patient using methods known in the art for *in vivo* scanning. These methods depend upon the type of label used. Skilled artisans will be able to determine the appropriate method for detecting a particular label. Methods and devices that may be used in the diagnostic methods of the invention include, but are not limited to, computed tomography (CT), whole body scan such as position emission tomography (PET), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and sonography.

[0508] In a specific embodiment, the molecule is labeled with a radioisotope and is detected in the patient using a radiation responsive surgical instrument (Thurston et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,441,050). In another embodiment, the molecule is labeled with a fluorescent compound and is detected in the patient using a fluorescence responsive scanning instrument. In another embodiment, the molecule is labeled with a positron emitting metal and is detected in the patient using positron emission-tomography. In yet another embodiment, the molecule is labeled with a paramagnetic label and is detected in a patient using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

### KITS

[0509] The present invention provides kits that can be used in the above methods. In one embodiment, a kit comprises an antibody of the invention, preferably a purified antibody, in one or more containers. In a specific embodiment, the kits of the present invention contain a substantially isolated polypeptide comprising an epitope which is specifically immunoreactive with an antibody included in the kit. Preferably, the kits of the present invention further comprise a control antibody which does not react with the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest. In another specific embodiment, the kits of the present invention comprise two or more antibodies (monoclonal and/or polyclonal) that recognize the same and/or different sequences or regions of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. In another specific embodiment, the kits of the present invention contain a means for detecting the binding of an antibody

to a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest (e.g., the antibody may be conjugated to a detectable substrate such as a fluorescent compound, an enzymatic substrate, a radioactive compound or a luminescent compound, or a second antibody which recognizes the first antibody may be conjugated to a detectable substrate).

[0510] In another specific embodiment of the present invention, the kit is a diagnostic kit for use in screening serum containing antibodies specific against a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and/or other higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the invention. Such a kit may include a control antibody that does not react with the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of interest. Such a kit may include a substantially isolated polypeptide antigen comprising an epitope which is specifically immunoreactive with at least one anti-heteromultimeric polypeptide complex antigen antibody. Further, such a kit includes means for detecting the binding of said antibody to the antigen (e.g., the antibody may be conjugated to a fluorescent compound such as fluorescein or rhodamine which can be detected by flow cytometry). In specific embodiments, the kit may include a recombinantly produced or chemically synthesized polypeptide antigen. The polypeptide antigen of the kit may also be attached to a solid support.

[0511] In a more specific embodiment the detecting means of the above-described kit includes a solid support to which said polypeptide antigen is attached. Such a kit may also include a non-attached reporter-labeled anti-human antibody. In this embodiment, binding of the antibody to the polypeptide antigen can be detected by binding of the said reporter-labeled antibody.

[0512] In an additional embodiment, the invention includes a diagnostic kit for use in screening serum containing antigens of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The diagnostic kit includes a substantially isolated antibody specifically immunoreactive with heteromultimeric polypeptide complex antigens, and means for detecting the binding of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex antigen to the antibody. In one embodiment, the antibody is attached to a solid support. In a specific embodiment, the antibody may be a monoclonal antibody. The detecting means of the kit may include a second, labeled monoclonal antibody. Alternatively, or in addition, the detecting means may include a labeled, competing antigen.

[0513] In one diagnostic configuration, test serum is reacted with a solid phase reagent having a surface-bound antigen obtained by the methods of the present invention. After binding with specific antigen antibody to the reagent and removing unbound serum components by washing, the reagent is reacted with reporter-labeled anti-human antibody to bind reporter to the reagent in proportion to the amount of bound anti-antigen antibody on the solid support. The reagent is again washed to remove unbound labeled antibody, and the amount of reporter associated with the reagent is determined. Typically, the reporter is an enzyme which is detected by incubating the solid phase in the presence of a suitable fluorometric, luminescent or colorimetric substrate (Sigma, St. Louis, MO).

[0514] The solid surface reagent in the above assay is prepared by known techniques for attaching protein material to solid support material, such as polymeric beads, dip sticks, 96-well plate or filter material. These attachment methods generally include non-specific adsorption of the protein to the support or covalent attachment of the protein, typically through a free amine group, to a chemically reactive group on the solid support, such as an activated carboxyl, hydroxyl, or aldehyde group. Alternatively, streptavidin coated plates can be used in conjunction with biotinylated antigen(s).

[0515] Thus, the invention provides an assay system or kit for carrying out this diagnostic method. The kit generally includes a support with surface-bound recombinant antigens, and a reporter-labeled anti-human antibody for detecting surface-bound anti-antigen antibody.

[0516] The invention further relates to antibodies which act as agonists or antagonists of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, including heterodimeric, heterotrimeric, heterotetrameric and/or other higher heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, of the present invention. For example, the present invention includes antibodies which disrupt receptor interactions with the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention either partially or fully. Included are both receptor-specific antibodies and ligand-specific antibodies. Included are receptor-specific antibodies which do not prevent heteromultimeric polypeptide complex binding but prevent receptor activation. Receptor activation (i.e., signaling) may be determined by techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art. Also included are receptor-specific antibodies which both prevent heteromultimeric polypeptide complex ligand binding and receptor activation. Likewise, included are neutralizing antibodies which bind the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex

ligand and prevent its binding to the receptor, as well as antibodies which bind the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex ligand, thereby preventing receptor activation, but do not prevent the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex ligand from binding the receptor. Further included are antibodies which activate the receptor. These antibodies may act as agonists for either all or less than all of the biological activities affected by ligand-mediated receptor activation. The antibodies may be specified as agonists or antagonists for biological activities comprising specific activities disclosed herein. Further included are antibodies that bind to heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention irrespective of whether these heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes are bound to a receptor. These antibodies act as heteromultimeric polypeptide complex agonists as reflected in an increase in cellular signaling in response to binding of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex to its cognate receptor in the presence of these antibodies. The above antibody agonists can be made using methods known in the art. See e.g., WO 96/40281; US Patent 5,811,097; Deng, B. et al., Blood 92(6):1981-1988 (1998); Chen, Z. et al., Cancer Res. 58(16):3668-3678 (1998); Harrop, J.A. et al., J. Immunol. 161(4):1786-1794 (1998); Zhu, Z. et al., Cancer Res. 58(15):3209-3214 (1998); Yoon, D.Y. et al., J. Immunol. 160(7):3170-3179 (1998); Prat, M. et al., J. Cell. Sci. 111(Pt2):237-247 (1998); Pitard, V. et al., J. Immunol. Methods 205(2):177-190 (1997); Liautard, J. et al., Cytokinde 9(4):233-241 (1997); Carlson, N.G. et al., J. Biol. Chem. 272(17):11295-11301 (1997); Taryman, R.E. et al., Neuron 14(4):755-762 (1995); Muller, Y.A. et al., Structure 6(9):1153-1167 (1998); Bartunek, P. et al., Cytokine 8(1):14-20 (1996) (said references incorporated by reference in their entireties).

[0517] For example, at least fourteen monoclonal antibodies have been generated against BLyS. These monoclonal antibodies are designated: 12D6, 2E5, 9B6, 1B8, 5F4, 9A5, 10G12, 11G12, 16B4, 3D4, 16C9, 13D5, 15C10, and 12C5. Preliminary analysis of these antibodies indicates that each binds BLyS protein in a Western blot analysis and when BLyS protein is bound to an ELISA plate. However, further analysis of antibodies 12D6, 2E5, 9B6, 1B8, 5F4, 9A5, 10G12, 11G12, and 16B4 indicates that only the antibodies designated 12D6, 9B6, 2E5, 10G12, 9A5, and 11G12 bind a membrane-bound form of BLyS. Thus, a subset of the monoclonal antibodies generated against BLyS have been determined to bind only the membrane-bound form of BLyS (i.e., this subset does not bind the soluble form of BLyS corresponding to amino acids 134 to 285 of SEQ ID

NO:30), which is primarily limited to expression on monocytes and dendritic cells. Antibody 9B6 has been found to bind specifically to the membrane-bound form of BLyS, but not to the soluble form of BLyS. Epitope mapping of antibody 9B6 has indicated that this antibody binds specifically to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from about Ser-171 to about Phe-194 of SEQ ID NO:30. More particularly, epitope mapping has indicated that antibody 9B6 binds specifically to a peptide comprising amino acid residues Lys-173 to Lys-188 of SEQ ID NO:30. In contrast, antibodies 16C9 and 15C10 have been found to bind the soluble form of BLyS (amino acids 134 to 285 of SEQ ID NO:30) and to inhibit BLyS-mediated proliferation of B cells. *See for example*, Example 10. The 15C10 antibody has also been found to inhibit binding of BLyS to its receptor. Epitope mapping of antibody 15C10 has indicated that this antibody binds specifically to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from about Glu-223 to about Tyr-246 of SEQ ID NO:30. More particularly, epitope mapping has indicated that antibody 15C10 binds specifically to a peptide comprising amino acid residues Val-227 to Asn-242 of SEQ ID NO:30. Antibody 15C10 also binds specifically to a peptide comprising amino acid residues Phe-230 to Cys-245 of SEQ ID NO:30.

[0518] As described above, anti-BLyS monoclonal antibodies have been prepared. Hybridomas producing the antibodies referred to as 9B6 and 15C10 have been deposited with the ATCC and have been assigned deposit accession numbers PTA-1158 and PTA-1159, respectively. In one embodiment, the antibodies of the invention have one or more of the same biological characteristics as one or more of the antibodies secreted by the hybridoma cell lines deposited under accession numbers PTA-1158 or PTA-1159. By "biological characteristics" is meant, the in vitro or in vivo activities or properties of the antibodies, such as, for example, the ability to bind to BLyS (e.g., the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:30, the mature form of BLyS, the membrane-bound form of BLyS, the soluble form of BLyS (amino acids 134 to 285 of SEQ ID NO:30), and an antigenic and/or epitope region of BLyS), the ability to substantially block BLyS/BLyS receptor binding, or the ability to block BLyS mediated biological activity (e.g., stimulation of B cell proliferation and immunoglobulin production). Optionally, the antibodies of the invention will bind to the same epitope as at least one of the antibodies specifically referred to herein. Such epitope binding can be routinely determined using assays known in the art.

[0519] Thus, in one embodiment, the invention provides antibodies that specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains a membrane-bound TNF ligand family member, and do not bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which lacks a membrane-bound TNF ligand family member. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains one molecule of a membrane bound TNF ligand family member. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains two molecules of one or more membrane bound TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains three molecules of one or more membrane bound TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains more than three molecules of one or more membrane bound TNF ligand family members. These antibodies have uses which include, but are not limited to, as diagnostic probes for identifying and/or isolating cell lineages expressing a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains a membrane bound form of a TNF ligand family member. For example, the expression of the membrane bound form of BLyS is elevated on activated monocytes, and accordingly, antibodies encompassed by the invention may be used to detect and/or quantitate levels of activated monocytes expressing heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention on their surfaces. Additionally, antibodies that only bind heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention which contain a membrane bound form of a TNF ligand family member may be used to target toxins to neoplastic, preneoplastic, and/or other cells that express a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex which contains a membrane bound form of a TNF ligand family member (e.g., monocytes and dendritic cells).

[0520] In another embodiment, the invention provides antibodies that specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains a soluble TNF ligand family member, and do not bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which lacks a soluble TNF ligand family member. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains one molecule of a soluble TNF ligand family member. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains two

molecules of one or more soluble TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains three molecules of one or more soluble TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains more than three molecules of one or more soluble TNF ligand family members. These antibodies have uses which include, but are not limited to, uses such as diagnostic probes for assaying soluble heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the present invention in biological samples, and as therapeutic agents that target toxins to cells expressing receptors for heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (e.g., B cells), and/or to reduce or block in vitro or in vivo biological activity mediated by heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (e.g., stimulation of B cell proliferation and/or immunoglobulin production).

[0521] In another embodiment, the invention provides antibodies that specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains both soluble and membrane-bound TNF ligand family member polypeptides, and do not bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which does not contain both soluble and membrane-bound TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains one molecule of a soluble TNF ligand family member. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains two molecules of one or more soluble TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains three molecules of one or more soluble TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains more than three molecules of one or more soluble TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains one molecule of a membrane-bound TNF ligand family member. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains two molecules of one or more membrane-bound TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains three molecules of one or more membrane-bound TNF ligand family members. These antibodies may specifically bind a heteromultimeric

polypeptide complex of the invention which contains more than three molecules of one or more membrane-bound TNF ligand family members.

[0522] As described above, the invention encompasses antibodies that inhibit or reduce the ability of a heteromultimeric complex of the invention to bind a receptor in vitro and/or in vivo. In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention inhibit or reduce the ability of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention to bind a receptor in vitro. In another nonexclusive specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention inhibit or reduce the ability of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention a receptor in vivo. Such inhibition can be assayed using techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art.

[0523] The invention also encompasses, antibodies that bind specifically to heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, but do not inhibit the ability of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes to their receptors in vitro and/or in vivo. In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention do not inhibit or reduce the ability of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention to bind a receptor in vitro. In another nonexclusive specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention do not inhibit or reduce the ability of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention to bind a receptor in vivo.

[0524] As described above, the invention encompasses antibodies that inhibit or reduce biological activity mediated by a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in vitro and/or in vivo. In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention inhibit or reduce B cell proliferation, mediated by a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, in vitro. Such inhibition can be assayed by routinely modifying B cell proliferation assays described herein or otherwise known in the art. In another nonexclusive specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention inhibit or reduce B cell proliferation, mediated by a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, in vivo. In a specific exemplary embodiment, the antibody of the invention is 15C10, or a humanized form thereof. In another preferred specific embodiment, the antibody is 16C9, or a humanized form thereof. Thus, in specific embodiments of the invention, a 16C9 and/or 15C10 antibody, or humanized forms thereof, are used to bind soluble BLyS and/or BLyS-SV and/or agonists and/or antagonists thereof and thereby inhibit (either partially or completely) B cell proliferation.

[0525] Alternatively, the invention also encompasses, antibodies that bind specifically to a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, but do not inhibit or reduce a biological activity mediated by that heteromultimeric polypeptide complex on the invention, in vitro and/or in vivo (e.g., stimulation of B cell proliferation). In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention do not inhibit or reduce biological activity, activity mediated by that heteromultimeric polypeptide complex on the invention, in vitro. In another non-exclusive embodiment, antibodies of the invention do not inhibit or reduce biological activity, activity mediated by that heteromultimeric polypeptide complex on the invention, in vivo. In a specific embodiment, the antibody of the invention is 9B6, or a humanized form thereof.

[0526] As described above, the invention encompasses antibodies that specifically bind to the same epitope as at least one of the antibodies specifically referred to herein, in vitro and/or in vivo.

[0527] In an exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from about Ser-171 to about Phe-194 of SEQ ID NO:30, in vitro. In another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from about Ser-171 to about Phe-194 of SEQ ID NO:30, in vivo. In another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from Lys-173 to Lys-188 of SEQ ID NO:30, in vitro. In another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from Lys-173 to Lys-188 of SEQ ID NO:30, in vivo.

[0528] In an additional exemplary specific embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from about Glu-223 to about Tyr-246 of SEQ ID NO:30, in vitro. In another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from about Glu-223 to about Tyr-246 of SEQ ID NO:30, in vivo. In another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from Val-227 to Asn-242 of SEQ ID NO:30, in vitro. In

another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from Val-227 to Asn-242 of SEQ ID NO:30, *in vivo*. In another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from Phe-230 to Cys-245 of SEQ ID NO:30, *in vitro*. In another exemplary specific, non-exclusive embodiment, the antibodies of the invention specifically bind to an amino acid sequence contained in amino acid residues from Phe-230 to Cys-245 of SEQ ID NO:30, *in vivo*.

[0529] The invention also provides antibodies that competitively inhibit the binding of a monoclonal antibody to a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. Competitive inhibition can be determined by any method known in the art, for example, using the competitive binding assays described herein. In preferred embodiments, the antibody competitively inhibits the binding of a monoclonal antibody by at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 75%, at least 70%, at least 60%, at least 50%, to a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention.

[0530] Additional exemplary embodiments of the invention are directed to the 9B6 antibody and to the hybridoma cell line expressing this antibody. A hybridoma cell line expressing Antibody 9B6 was deposited with the ATCC on January 7, 2000 and has been assigned ATCC Deposit No. PTA-1159. In a preferred exemplary embodiment, antibody 9B6 is humanized.

[0531] Additional exemplary embodiments of the invention are directed to the 15C10 antibody and to the hybridoma cell line expressing this antibody. A hybridoma cell line expressing Antibody 15C10 was deposited with the ATCC on January 7, 2000 and has been assigned ATCC Deposit No. PTA-1158. In a preferred exemplary embodiment, antibody 15C10 is humanized.

[0532] In a specific embodiment, the specific antibodies described above are humanized using techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art and then used as therapeutics as described herein.

[0533] In another specific embodiment, any of the antibodies listed above are used in a soluble form.

[0534] In another specific embodiment, any of the antibodies listed above are conjugated to a toxin or a label (as described *infra*). Such conjugated antibodies are used

to kill a particular population of cells or to quantitate a particular population of cells which express a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention on its surface. In a preferred exemplary embodiment, such conjugated antibodies are used to kill B cells expressing BLyS receptor on their surface. In another preferred exemplary embodiment, such conjugated antibodies are used to quantitate B cells expressing BLyS receptor on their surface. In another exemplary preferred embodiment, such conjugated antibodies are used to kill monocyte cells expressing a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention containing the membrane-bound form of BLyS. In another exemplary preferred embodiment, such conjugated antibodies are used to quantitate monocyte cells expressing a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention containing the membrane-bound form of BLyS. In highly preferred embodiments, such conjugated antibodies are used to kill Acute Myelogenous Leukemia cells, Chronic Lymphocytic leukemia cells, Multiple Myeloma cells, Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma cells, and Hodgkin's lymphoma cells.

[0535] The antibodies of the invention also have uses as therapeutics and/or prophylactics which include, but are not limited to, in activating monocytes or blocking monocyte activation and/or killing monocyte lineages that express heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, which contain the membrane bound TNF ligand family member, on their cell surfaces (e.g., to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose myeloid leukemias, monocyte based leukemias and lymphomas, monocytosis, monocytopenia, rheumatoid arthritis, and other diseases or conditions associated with activated monocytes). In a specific embodiment, the antibodies of the invention fix complement. In other specific embodiments, as further described herein, the antibodies of the invention (or fragments thereof) are associated with heterologous polypeptides or nucleic acids (e.g. toxins, such as, compounds that bind and activate endogenous cytotoxic effector systems, and radioisotopes; and cytotoxic prodrugs).

[0536] As discussed above, antibodies to the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention can, in turn, be utilized to generate anti-idiotype antibodies that "mimic" the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes, using techniques well known to those skilled in the art. (See, e.g., Greenspan & Bona, *FASEB J.* 7(5):437-444 (1989), and Nissinoff, *J. Immunol.* 147(8):2429-2438 (1991)). For example, antibodies which bind to heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and competitively inhibit their binding to a receptor, can be used to generate anti-idiotypes that "mimic" the receptor

binding domain of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex and, as a consequence, bind to and stimulate the receptor in the absence of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. Such stimulatiing anti-idiotypes or Fab fragments of such anti-idiotypes can be used in therapeutic regimens to stimulate intracellular signaling. For example, such anti-idiotypic antibodies can be used to bind BLyS and/or BLyS-SV receptors on the surface of cells of B cell lineage, and thereby block and/or stimulate BLyS and/or BLyS-SV mediated B cell activation, proliferation, and/or differentiation.

#### ***IMMUNE SYSTEM-RELATED DISORDER DIAGNOSIS***

[0537] TNF ligand family member polypeptides are expressed, for example, in kidney, lung, peripheral leukocyte, bone marrow, T cell lymphoma, B cell lymphoma, activated T cells, stomach cancer, smooth muscle, macrophages, and cord blood tissue, and particularly cells of monocytic lineage. Moreover, TNF ligand family member polypeptides are expressed in primary dendritic cells. Additionally, TNF ligand family member polypeptides are expressed on the cell surface of the following non-hematopoietic tumor cell lines: Colon carcinomas HCT 116 (ATCC Accession No. CCL-247) and HT-29 (ATCC Accession No. HTB-38); Colon adenocarcinomas Caco-2 (ATCC Accession No. HTB-37), COLO 201 (ATCC Accession No. CCL-224), and WiDr (ATCC Accession No. CCL-218); Breast adenocarcinoma MDA-MB-231 (ATCC Accession No. HTB-26); Bladder squamous carcinoma SCaBER (ATCC Accession No. HTB-3); Bladder carcinoma HT-1197 (ATCC Accession No. CRL-1473); Kidney carcinomas A-498 (ATCC Accession No. HTB-44), Caki-1 (ATCC Accession No. HTB-46), and Caki-2 (ATCC Accession No. HTG-47); Kidney, Wilms tumor SK-NEP-1 (ATCC Accession No. HTB-48); and Pancreas carcinomas Hs 766T (ATCC Accession No. HTB-134), MIA PaCa-2 (ATCC Accession No. CRL-1420), and SU.86.86 (ATCC Accession No. CRL-1837). For a number of immune system-related disorders, substantially altered (increased or decreased) levels of heteromultimeric TNF ligand family member complexes can be detected in immune system tissue or other cells or bodily fluids (e.g., sera, plasma, urine, synovial fluid or spinal fluid) taken from an individual having such a disorder, relative to a "standard" level of a heteromultimeric TNF ligand family member complex, that is, the level of a heteromultimeric TNF ligand family member complex in immune system tissues

or bodily fluids from an individual not having the immune system disorder. Thus, the invention provides a diagnostic method useful during diagnosis of an immune system disorder, which involves measuring the level of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in immune system tissue or other cells or body fluid from an individual and comparing the measured level with a standard level, whereby an increase or decrease in the level compared to the standard is indicative of an immune system disorder or normal activation, proliferation, differentiation, and/or death.

[0538] In particular, it is believed that certain tissues in mammals with cancer of cells or tissue of the immune system express significantly enhanced or reduced levels of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention when compared to a corresponding "standard" level. Further, it is believed that enhanced or depressed levels of these heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes can be detected in certain body fluids (e.g., sera, plasma, urine, and spinal fluid) or cells or tissue from mammals with such a cancer when compared to sera from mammals of the same species not having the cancer.

[0539] For example, as disclosed herein, BLyS is highly expressed in cells of monocytic lineage. Accordingly, polynucleotides of the invention (e.g., polynucleotide sequences complementary to all or a portion of BLyS mRNA and/or BLyS-SV mRNA) and antibodies (and antibody fragments) directed against the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, containing one or more membrane-bound or soluble BLyS polypeptides, may be used to quantitate or qualitate concentrations of cells of monocytic lineage (e.g., monocytic leukemia cells) expressing BLyS on their cell surfaces. These antibodies additionally have diagnostic applications in detecting abnormalities in the level of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention containing one or more membrane-bound or soluble BLyS polypeptide, or abnormalities in the structure and/or temporal, tissue, cellular, or subcellular location of such complexes. These diagnostic assays may be performed in vivo or in vitro, such as, for example, on blood samples, biopsy tissue or autopsy tissue.

[0540] Furthermore, as disclosed herein, receptors for TNF ligand family member polypeptides are expressed on cells of B cell lineage. Accordingly, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (including labeled polypeptides and fusion proteins), and antibodies (including anti-antibody fragments) against the polypeptide complexes of the invention may be used to quantitate or qualitate concentrations of cells

of B cell lineage (e.g., B cell related leukemias or lymphomas) expressing TNF ligand family member receptors on their cell surfaces.

[0541] Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, and antibodies thereto, additionally have diagnostic applications in detecting abnormalities in the level of TNF receptor family gene expression (e.g., transmembrane activator and CAML interactor (TACI, GenBank accession number AAC51790), and B-cell maturation antigen (BCMA, GenBank accession number NP\_001183)), or abnormalities in the structure and/or temporal, tissue, cellular, or subcellular location of such receptors and/or diagnosing activity/defects in signalling pathways associated with such receptors. These diagnostic assays may be performed in vivo or in vitro, such as, for example, on blood samples or biopsy tissue using techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art.

[0542] In one embodiment, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes or their agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies) of the invention are used to treat, prevent, diagnose, or prognose an individual having an immunodeficiency.

[0543] Immunodeficiencies that may be treated, prevented, diagnosed, and/or prognosed with the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes or agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies) of the invention, include, but are not limited to one or more immunodeficiencies selected from: severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID)-X linked, SCID-autosomal, adenosine deaminase deficiency (ADA deficiency), X-linked agammaglobulinemia (XLA), Bruton's disease, congenital agammaglobulinemia, X-linked infantile agammaglobulinemia, acquired agammaglobulinemia, adult onset agammaglobulinemia, late-onset agammaglobulinemia, dysgammaglobulinemia, hypogammaglobulinemia, transient hypogammaglobulinemia of infancy, unspecified hypogammaglobulinemia, agammaglobulinemia, common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) (acquired), chronic granulomatous disease, Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome (WAS), X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, non X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, selective IgA deficiency, IgG subclass deficiency (with or without IgA deficiency), antibody deficiency with normal or elevated IgGs, immunodeficiency with thymoma, Ig heavy chain deletions, kappa chain deficiency, B cell lymphoproliferative disorder (BLPD), selective IgM immunodeficiency, recessive agammaglobulinemia (Swiss type), reticular dysgenesis, neonatal neutropenia, severe congenital leukopenia, thymic aplymphoplasia-aplasia or dysplasia with immunodeficiency, ataxia-telangiectasia, short

limbed dwarfism, X-linked lymphoproliferative syndrome (XLP), Nezelof syndrome-combined immunodeficiency with IgS, purine nucleoside phosphorylase deficiency (PNP), MHC Class II deficiency (Bare Lymphocyte Syndrome) and severe combined immunodeficiency.

[0544] According to this embodiment, an individual having an immunodeficiency expresses aberrantly low levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention when compared to an individual not having an immunodeficiency. Any means described herein or otherwise known in the art may be applied to detect heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (e.g., FACS analysis or ELISA) and to determine the expression profile of said polypeptide complexes in a biological sample.

[0545] A biological sample of a person afflicted with an immunodeficiency is characterized by low levels of expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention when compared to that observed in individuals not having an immunodeficiency. Thus, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or agonists or antagonists thereof, may be used according to the methods of the invention in the diagnosis and/or prognosis of an immunodeficiency. For example, a biological sample obtained from a person suspected of being afflicted with an immunodeficiency ("the subject") may be analyzed for the relative expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The expression level(s) of one or more of these complexes of the invention is (are) then compared to the expression level(s) of the same complexes of the invention as expressed in a person known not to be afflicted with an immunodeficiency. A significant difference in expression level(s) between samples obtained from the subject and the control suggests that the subject is afflicted with an immunodeficiency.

[0546] In another embodiment, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes or agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies) of the invention are used to treat, diagnose and/or prognose an individual having common variable immunodeficiency disease ("CVID"; also known as "acquired agammaglobulinemia" and "acquired hypogammaglobulinemia") or a subset of this disease. According to this embodiment, an individual having CVID or a subset of individuals having CVID expresses aberrant levels of a TNF receptor family member on their B cells and/or monocytes, when compared to individuals not having CVID. Any means described herein or otherwise known in the art may be applied to

detect heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and/or heteromultimeric polypeptide complex receptor polypeptides (e.g., FACS analysis or ELISA detection) and to determine differentially the expression profile of such polypeptide complexes of the invention and/or such polypeptide complex receptor polypeptides in a sample containing at least monocyte cells or some component thereof as compared to a sample containing at least B cells or a component thereof. In the instance where a sample containing at least monocyte cells or some component thereof is determined to reflect expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention and a sample containing at least B cells or a component thereof is determined to reflect less than normal levels of expression of the same heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, the samples may be correlated with the occurrence of CVID (i.e., "acquired agammaglobulinemia" or "acquired hypogammaglobulinemia").

[0547] A subset of persons afflicted with CVID are characterized by high levels of expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention and a receptor for that heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, in peripheral or circulating B cells when compared to that observed in individuals not having CVID. In contrast, persons who are not afflicted with CVID are typically characterized by low levels of expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention and high levels of expression of a receptor for that heteromultimeric polypeptide complex in peripheral or circulating B cells. Thus, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, and/or receptors thereof, and/or agonists or antagonists thereof, may be used according to the methods of the invention in the differential diagnosis of this subset of CVID. For example, a sample of peripheral B cells obtained from a person suspected of being afflicted with CVID ("the subject") may be analyzed for the relative level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The level(s) of one or more of these complexes of the invention is (are) then compared to the level(s) of the same complexes of the invention as expressed in a person known not to be afflicted with CVID ("the control"). A significant difference in measured level(s) of heteromultimeric polypeptide complex(es) of the invention, and/or receptor(s) therof, and/or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, between samples obtained from the subject and the control suggests that the subject is afflicted with this subset of CVID.

[0548] Cunningham-Rundles and Bodian followed 248 CVID patients over a period of 1-25 years and discovered that a number of associated diseases or conditions appear with increased frequency in CVID patients (Cunningham-Rundles and Bodian, *J. Clin. Immunol.*, 92:34-48 (1999) which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.) The most important clinical events include infections, autoimmunity, inflammatory disorders, marked by gastrointestinal and granulomatous disease, cancer and hepatitis. Most CVID patients are at increased risk of recurrent infections particularly of the respiratory tract. The types of acute and recurring bacterial infections exhibited in most patients include pneumonia, bronchitis and sinusitis. Children with CVID have a marked increased risk of otitis media. Additionally, blood borne infections including sepsis, meningitis, septic arthritis, and osteomyelitis are seen with increased frequency in these patients.

[0549] In another specific embodiment, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or agonists or antagonists thereof (e.g., antibodies) are used to diagnose, prognose, treat, or prevent conditions associated with CVID, including, but not limited to, conditions associated with acute and recurring infections (e.g., pneumonia, bronchitis, sinusitis, otitis media, sepsis, meningitis, septic arthritis, and osteomyelitis), chronic lung disease, autoimmunity, granulomatous disease, lymphoma, cancers (e.g., cancers of the breast, stomach, colon, mouth, prostate, lung, vagina, ovary, skin, and melanin forming cells (i.e. melanoma), inflammatory bowel disease (e.g., Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, and ulcerative proctitis), malabsorption, Hodgkin's disease, and Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia.

[0550] In a specific embodiment, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or agonists or antagonists thereof (e.g., antibodies) are used to diagnose, prognose, treat, or prevent a disorder characterized by deficient serum immunoglobulin production, recurrent infections, and/or immune system dysfunction. Moreover, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or agonists or antagonists thereof (e.g., antibodies) may be used to diagnose, prognose, treat, or prevent infections of the joints, bones, skin, and/or parotid glands, blood-borne infections (e.g., sepsis, meningitis, septic arthritis, and/or osteomyelitis), autoimmune diseases (e.g., those disclosed herein), inflammatory disorders, and malignancies, and/or any disease or disorder or condition associated with these infections, diseases, disorders and/or malignancies) including, but not limited to, CVID, other primary immune deficiencies,

HIV disease, CLL, recurrent bronchitis, sinusitis, otitis media, conjunctivitis, pneumonia, hepatitis, meningitis, herpes zoster (e.g., severe herpes zoster), and/or pneumocystis carni.

[0551] In another embodiment, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies) of the invention are used to treat, diagnose, or prognose an individual having an autoimmune disease or disorder.

[0552] Autoimmune diseases or disorders that may be treated, diagnosed, or prognosed using heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies) of the invention include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following: autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune neonatal thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, autoimmunocytopenia, hemolytic anemia, antiphospholipid syndrome, dermatitis, allergic encephalomyelitis, myocarditis, relapsing polychondritis, rheumatic heart disease, glomerulonephritis (e.g., IgA nephropathy), Multiple Sclerosis, Neuritis, Uveitis Ophthalmia, Polyendocrinopathies, Purpura (e.g., Henoch-Schoenlein purpura), Reiter's Disease, Stiff-Man Syndrome, Autoimmune Pulmonary Inflammation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, and autoimmune inflammatory eye, autoimmune thyroiditis, hypothyroidism (i.e., Hashimoto's thyroiditis, systemic lupus erythematosus, Goodpasture's syndrome, Pemphigus, Receptor autoimmunities such as, for example, (a) Graves' Disease, (b) Myasthenia Gravis, and (c) insulin resistance, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma with anti-collagen antibodies, mixed connective tissue disease, polymyositis/dermatomyositis, pernicious anemia, idiopathic Addison's disease, infertility, glomerulonephritis such as primary glomerulonephritis and IgA nephropathy, bullous pemphigoid, Sjogren's syndrome, diabetes mellitus, and adrenergic drug resistance (including adrenergic drug resistance with asthma or cystic fibrosis), chronic active hepatitis, primary biliary cirrhosis, other endocrine gland failure, vitiligo, vasculitis, post-MI, cardiotomy syndrome, urticaria, atopic dermatitis, asthma, inflammatory myopathies, and other inflammatory, granulomatous, degenerative, and atrophic disorders.

[0553] According to this embodiment, an individual having an autoimmune disease or disorder expresses aberrantly high levels of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, and/or receptors thereof, when compared to an individual not having an autoimmune disease or disorder. Any means described herein or otherwise known in the

art may be applied to detect heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, and/or their receptors (e.g., FACS analysis or ELISA detection) and to determine the expression profile of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, and/or their receptors in a biological sample.

[0554] A biological sample of persons afflicted with an autoimmune disease or disorder is characterized by high levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or a receptor therefor, when compared to that observed in individuals not having an autoimmune disease or disorder. Thus, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or agonists or antagonists thereof, may be used according to the methods of the invention in the diagnosis and/or prognosis of an autoimmune disease or disorder. For example, a biological sample obtained from a person suspected of being afflicted with an autoimmune disease or disorder ("the subject") may be analyzed for the relative expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or a receptor therefor. The expression level(s) of one or more of the complexes of the invention is (are) then compared to the expression level(s) of the same complexes of the invention as expressed in a person known not to be afflicted with an autoimmune disease or disorder. A significant difference in expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or a receptor therefor, between samples obtained from the subject and the control suggests that the subject is afflicted with an autoimmune disease or disorder.

[0555] In another embodiment, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex, or agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies), of the invention are used to treat, diagnose, or prognose an individual having systemic lupus erythematosus or a subset of this disease. According to this embodiment, an individual having systemic lupus erythematosus or a subset of individuals having systemic lupus erythematosus expresses aberrantly high levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, when compared to an individual not having systemic lupus erythematosus or this subset of systemic lupus erythematosus. Any means described herein or otherwise known in the art may be applied to detect the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, (e.g., FACS analysis or ELISA detection) and to determine the expression profile of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, in a biological sample.

[0556] A biological sample of a person afflicted with systemic lupus erythematosus is characterized by a high level of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, when compared to that observed in individuals not having systemic lupus erythematosus. Thus, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or agonists or antagonists thereof, may be used according to the methods of the invention in the diagnosis and/or prognosis of systemic lupus erythematosus or a subset of systemic lupus erythematosus. For example, a biological sample obtained from a person suspected of being afflicted with systemic lupus erythematosus ("the subject") may be analyzed for the relative expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The expression level(s) of one or more of these complexes of the invention is (are) then compared to the expression level(s) of the same complexes of the invention as expressed in a person known not to be afflicted with systemic lupus erythematosus. A significant difference in expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, between samples obtained from the subject and the control suggests that the subject is afflicted with systemic lupus erythematosus or a subset thereof.

[0557] Furthermore, there is a direct correlation between the severity of systemic lupus erythematosus, or a subset of this disease, and the concentration of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. Thus, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, may be used according to the methods of the invention in prognosis of the severity of systemic lupus erythematosus or a subset of systemic lupus erythematosus. For example, a biological sample obtained from a person suspected of being afflicted with systemic lupus erythematosus ("the subject") may be analyzed for the relative expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The expression level(s) of one or more of these complexes of the invention is (are) then compared to the expression level(s) of the same complexes of the invention as expressed in a panel of persons known to represent a range in severities of this disease. According to this method, the match of expression level with a characterized member of the panel indicates the severity of the disease.

[0558] For example, elevated levels of soluble BLyS have been observed in the serum of patients with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). In comparing the sera of 150 SLE patients with that of 38 control individuals, it was found that most of the SLE patients had

more than 5ng/ml of serum BLyS, more than 30% of SLE patients had levels greater than 10ng/ml, and approximately 10% of SLE patients had serum BLyS levels greater than 20ng/ml. In contrast, the majority of normal controls had BLyS levels less than 5ng/ml, and less than 10% had levels higher than 10ng/ml. The elevated levels of BLyS protein in sera is present in the soluble form and has biologic activity as assayed by the ability to stimulate anti-IgM treated B cells in vitro. SLE patients with more than 15ng/ml serum BLyS were also found to have elevated levels of anti-dsDNA antibodies compared to both normal controls and SLE patients with less than 5ng/ml of serum BLyS (unpublished data).

[0559] In addition the serum of two subgroups of patients which were positive for anti-nuclear antibodies (ANA+) but did not meet the formal requirements of the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) for classification of SLE were analyzed for BLyS levels. The first subgroup of sera was ANA+ sera that came from patients who did not present with the clinical impression of SLE. This group had only slightly elevated levels of BLyS (~9ng/ml BLyS). The second subgroup however, which was ANA+ sera from patients who presented with the clinical impression of SLE, had significantly increased BLyS levels (~15ng/ml). These results suggest that an elevated level of BLyS precedes the formal fulfillment of the ACR criteria. The ACR criteria are described in Tan, E.M., et al, *Arthritis and Rheumatism* 25:1271 – 1277 (1982).

[0560] In another embodiment, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex or agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies) of the invention are used to treat, diagnose, or prognose an individual having rheumatoid arthritis or a subset of this disease. According to this embodiment, an individual having rheumatoid arthritis or a subset of individuals having rheumatoid arthritis expresses aberrantly high levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention when compared to an individual not having rheumatoid arthritis or this subset of rheumatoid arthritis. Any means described herein or otherwise known in the art may be applied to detect a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention (e.g., FACS analysis or ELISA detection) and to determine the expression profile of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in a biological sample.

[0561] A biological sample of persons afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis is characterized by high levels of expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention when compared to that observed in individuals not having rheumatoid

arthritis. Thus, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or agonists or antagonists thereof, may be used according to the methods of the invention in the diagnosis and/or prognosis of rheumatoid arthritis or a subset of rheumatoid arthritis. For example, a biological sample obtained from a person suspected of being afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis ("the subject") may be analyzed for the relative expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The expression level(s) of one or more of these complexes of the invention is (are) then compared to the expression level(s) of the same complexes of the invention as expressed in a person known not to be afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis. A significant difference in expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, between samples obtained from the subject and the control suggests that the subject is afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis or a subset thereof.

[0562] In another embodiment, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, or agonists or antagonists (e.g., antibodies) of the invention, are used to treat, diagnose, or prognose an individual with an immune-based rheumatologic diseases, including but not limited to, SLE, rheumatoid arthritis, CREST syndrome (a variant of scleroderma characterized by calcinosis, Raynaud's phenomenon, esophageal motility disorders, sclerodactyly, and telangiectasia), seronegative spondyloarthropathy (SpA), polymyositis/dermatomyositis, microscopic polyangiitis, hepatitis C-associated arthritis, Takayasu's arteritis, and undifferentiated connective tissue disorder. According to this embodiment, an individual having an immune-based rheumatologic disease or a subset of individuals having a particular immune-based rheumatologic disease expresses aberrantly high levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention when compared to an individual not having the particular immune-based rheumatologic disease or this subset of individuals having the particular immune-based rheumatologic disease. Any means described herein or otherwise known in the art may be applied to detect a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention (e.g., FACS analysis or ELISA detection) and to determine the expression profile of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in a biological sample.

[0563] A biological sample of persons afflicted with an immune-based rheumatologic disease is characterized by high levels of expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention when compared to that observed in individuals not having an

immune-based rheumatologic disease. Thus, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, and/or agonists or antagonists thereof, may be used according to the methods of the invention in the diagnosis and/or prognosis of an immune-based rheumatologic disease. For example, a biological sample obtained from a person suspected of being afflicted with an immune-based rheumatologic disease ("the subject") may be analyzed for the relative expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The expression level(s) of one or more of these complexes of the invention is (are) then compared to the expression level(s) of the same complexes of the invention as expressed in a person known not to be afflicted with an immune-based rheumatologic disease. A significant difference in expression level(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, between samples obtained from the subject and the control suggests that the subject is afflicted with an immune-based rheumatologic disease.

[0564] For example, it has been observed, that serum BLyS levels inversely correlate with nephrotic-range proteinuria (>3gm proteinuria in a 24 hour urine collection) using a sample of 71 SLE patients ( $p=0.019$ ). Proteinuria was determined in 71 SLE patients within one month of phlebotomy for serum BLyS determination. Serum BLyS was classified as low, normal, or high based on the 5<sup>th</sup> through 95<sup>th</sup> percentiles for normal controls. Nephrotic-range proteinuria was inversely correlated with serum BLyS levels. Thus, in exemplary specific embodiments, serum levels of BLyS-containing heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in individuals diagnosed with an immune based rheumatologic disease (e.g., SLE, rheumatoid arthritis, CREST syndrome (a variant of scleroderma characterized by calcinosis, Raynaud's phenomenon, esophageal motility disorders, sclerodactyly, and telangiectasia), seronegative spondyloarthropathy (SpA), polymyositis/dermatomyositis, microscopic polyangiitis, hepatitis C-associated arthritis, Takayasu's arteritis, and undifferentiated connective tissue disorder) may be used to determine, diagnose, prognose, or monitor the severity of certain aspects or symptoms of the disease, such as nephrotic-range proteinuria.

[0565] Thus, the invention provides a diagnostic method useful during diagnosis of a immune system disorder, including cancers of this system, and immunodeficiencies and/or autoimmune diseases which involves measuring the expression level of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in immune system tissue or other cells or body fluid

from an individual and comparing the measured expression level with a standard expression level, whereby an increase or decrease in the expression level compared to the standard is indicative of an immune system disorder.

[0566] For example, levels of soluble BLyS in the serum of patients with follicular non-Hodgkin's lymphoma are elevated compared to levels of soluble BLyS in the sera of healthy individuals. Thus, in an exemplary specific embodiment, the invention provides a method of diagnosing non-Hodgkin's lymphoma which involves measuring the expression level of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention which contains BLyS and/or BLyS-SV polypeptides in immune system tissue or other cells or body fluid from an individual and comparing the measured expression level with a standard expression level, whereby an increase in the expression level compared to the standard is indicative of non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Other forms of Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma which may be diagnosed according to the above method include, but are not limited to, mantle cell lymphoma, diffuse large cell lymphoma, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, small lymphocytic leukemia, and marginal zone lymphoma.

[0567] Where a diagnosis of a disorder in the immune system, including, but not limited to, diagnosis of a tumor, diagnosis of an immunodeficiency, and/or diagnosis of an autoimmune disease, has already been made according to conventional methods, the present invention is useful as a prognostic indicator, whereby patients exhibiting enhanced or depressed expression of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention will experience a worse clinical outcome relative to patients expressing the gene at a level nearer the standard level.

[0568] By analyzing or determining the expression level of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention is intended qualitatively or quantitatively measuring or estimating the level of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in a first biological sample either directly (e.g., by determining or estimating absolute protein level) or relatively (e.g., by comparison to a second biological sample). Preferably, the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex level in the first biological sample is measured or estimated and compared to a standard level, the standard being taken from a second biological sample obtained from an individual not having the disorder or being determined by averaging levels from a population of individuals not having a disorder of the immune system. As will be appreciated in the art, once a standard level of a heteromultimeric

polypeptide complex of the invention is known, it can be used repeatedly as a standard for comparison.

[0569] By "biological sample" is intended any biological sample obtained from an individual, body fluid, cell line, tissue culture, or other source which contains a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. As indicated, biological samples include body fluids (such as sera, plasma, urine, synovial fluid and spinal fluid) which contain one or more free heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, immune system tissue, and other tissue sources found to express one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. Methods for obtaining tissue biopsies and body fluids from mammals are well known in the art. Where the biological sample is to include mRNA, a tissue biopsy is the preferred source.

[0570] The compounds of the present invention are useful for diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of various immune system-related disorders in mammals, preferably humans. Such disorders include, but are not limited to tumors (e.g., B cell and monocytic cell leukemias and lymphomas, See Example ) and tumor metastasis, infections by bacteria, viruses and other parasites, immunodeficiencies, inflammatory diseases, lymphadenopathy, autoimmune diseases (e.g., rheumatoid arhritis, systemic lupus erythamatosus, Sjogren syndrome, mixed connective tissue disease, and inflammatory myopathies), and graft versus host disease.

[0571] Total cellular RNA can be isolated from a biological sample using any suitable technique such as the single-step guanidinium-thiocyanate-phenol-chloroform method described in Chomczynski and Sacchi, *Anal. Biochem.* 162:156-159 (1987). Levels of mRNA encoding the component polypeptide(s) of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention are then assayed using any appropriate method. These include Northern blot analysis, S1 nuclease mapping, the polymerase chain reaction (PCR), reverse transcription in combination with the polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), and reverse transcription in combination with the ligase chain reaction (RT-LCR).

[0572] Assaying levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in a biological sample can occur using antibody-based techniques. For example, polypeptide complex expression in tissues can be studied with classical immunohistological methods (Jalkanen, M., *et al.*, *J. Cell. Biol.* 101:976-985 (1985); Jalkanen, M., *et al.*, *J. Cell . Biol.* 105:3087-3096 (1987)). Other antibody-based methods useful for detecting one or more

heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention include immunoassays, such as the enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), radioimmunoassay (RIA), and fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS). Suitable antibody assay labels are known in the art and include enzyme labels, (e.g., glucose oxidase, alkaline phosphatase and horse radish peroxidase) and radioisotopes, such as iodine ( $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{123}\text{I}$ ,  $^{121}\text{I}$ ), carbon ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ), sulfur ( $^{35}\text{S}$ ), tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ ), indium ( $^{115m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{113m}\text{In}$ ,  $^{112}\text{In}$ ,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ), and technetium ( $^{99}\text{Tc}$ ,  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ ), thallium ( $^{201}\text{Tl}$ ), gallium ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ ,  $^{67}\text{Ga}$ ), palladium ( $^{103}\text{Pd}$ ), molybdenum ( $^{99}\text{Mo}$ ), xenon ( $^{133}\text{Xe}$ ), fluorine ( $^{18}\text{F}$ ),  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{149}\text{Pm}$ ,  $^{140}\text{La}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{186}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{188}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{142}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{105}\text{Rh}$ ,  $^{97}\text{Ru}$ ; luminescent labels, such as luminol; and fluorescent labels, such as fluorescein and rhodamine, and biotin.

[0573] Techniques known in the art may be applied to label antibodies of the invention. Such techniques include, but are not limited to, the use of bifunctional conjugating agents (see e.g., U.S. Patent Nos. 5,756,065; 5,714,631; 5,696,239; 5,652,361; 5,505,931; 5,489,425; 5,435,990; 5,428,139; 5,342,604; 5,274,119; 4,994,560; and 5,808,003; the contents of each of which are hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety) and direct coupling reactions (e.g., Bolton-Hunter and Chloramine-T reaction).

[0574] The tissue or cell type to be analyzed will generally include those which are known, or suspected, to express one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (such as, for example, cells of monocytic lineage) or cells or tissue which are known, or suspected, to express a receptor for such heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (such as, for example, cells of B cell lineage and the spleen). The protein isolation methods employed herein may, for example, be such as those described in Harlow and Lane (Harlow, E. and Lane, D., 1988, "Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual", Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, New York), which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The isolated cells can be derived from cell culture or from a patient. The analysis of cells taken from culture may be a necessary step in the assessment of cells that could be used as part of a cell-based gene therapy technique or, alternatively, to test the effect of compounds on the expression of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention.

[0575] For example, antibodies, or fragments of antibodies, such as those described herein, may be used to quantitatively or qualitatively detect the presence of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention or conserved variants or peptide

fragments thereof. This can be accomplished, for example, by immunofluorescence techniques employing a fluorescently labeled antibody coupled with light microscopic, flow cytometric, or fluorimetric detection.

[0576] The antibodies (or fragments thereof) or heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the present invention may, additionally, be employed histologically, as in immunofluorescence, immunoelectron microscopy or non-immunological assays, for in situ detection of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention or conserved variants or peptide fragments thereof, or for binding of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention to its receptor. In situ detection may be accomplished by removing a histological specimen from a patient, and applying thereto a labeled antibody or a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention. The antibody (or fragment) or heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention is preferably applied by overlaying the labeled antibody (or fragment) onto a biological sample. Through the use of such a procedure, it is possible to determine not only the presence of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, or conserved variants or peptide fragments, or binding of the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, but also its distribution in the examined tissue. Using the present invention, those of ordinary skill will readily perceive that any of a wide variety of histological methods (such as staining procedures) can be modified in order to achieve such in situ detection.

[0577] Immunoassays and non-immunoassays for heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention or conserved variants or peptide fragments thereof will typically comprise incubating a sample, such as a biological fluid, a tissue extract, freshly harvested cells, or lysates of cells which have been incubated in cell culture, in the presence of detectably labeled antibodies capable of identifying one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention or conserved variants or peptide fragments thereof, and detecting the bound antibody by any of a number of techniques well-known in the art.

[0578] Immunoassays and non-immunoassays for heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention or conserved variants or peptide fragments thereof will typically comprise incubating a sample, such as a biological fluid, a tissue extract, freshly harvested cells, or lysates of cells which have been incubated in cell culture, in the presence of a detectable or labeled heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention

capable of identifying a receptor polypeptide or conserved variants or peptide fragments thereof, and detecting the bound heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention by any of a number of techniques well-known in the art.

[0579] The biological sample may be brought in contact with and immobilized onto a solid phase support or carrier such as nitrocellulose, or other solid support which is capable of immobilizing cells, cell particles or soluble proteins. The support may then be washed with suitable buffers followed by treatment with the detectably labeled antibody or detectable heteromultimeric polypeptide complex(es) of the invention. The solid phase support may then be washed with the buffer a second time to remove unbound antibody or polypeptide. Optionally the antibody is subsequently labeled. The amount of bound label on solid support may then be detected by conventional means.

[0580] By "solid phase support or carrier" is intended any support capable of binding an antigen or an antibody. Well-known supports or carriers include glass, polystyrene, polypropylene, polyethylene, dextran, nylon, amylases, natural and modified celluloses, polyacrylamides, gabbros, and magnetite. The nature of the carrier can be either soluble to some extent or insoluble for the purposes of the present invention. The support material may have virtually any possible structural configuration so long as the coupled molecule is capable of binding to an antigen or antibody. Thus, the support configuration may be spherical, as in a bead, or cylindrical, as in the inside surface of a test tube, or the external surface of a rod. Alternatively, the surface may be flat such as a sheet, test strip, etc. Preferred supports include polystyrene beads. Those skilled in the art will know many other suitable carriers for binding antibody or antigen, or will be able to ascertain the same by use of routine experimentation.

[0581] The binding activity of a given lot of antibody or a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention may be determined according to well-known methods. Those skilled in the art will be able to determine operative and optimal assay conditions for each determination by employing routine experimentation.

[0582] In addition to assaying levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention in a biological sample obtained from an individual, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention can also be detected *in vivo* by imaging. For example, in one embodiment of the invention, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention and/or an antibody to a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the

invention, is used to image B cell lymphomas. In another embodiment, a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention and/or antibodies to a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, is used to image lymphomas (e.g., monocyte and B cell lymphomas).

[0583] Antibody labels or markers for *in vivo* imaging of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention include those detectable by X-radiography, NMR, MRI, CAT-scans or ESR. For X-radiography, suitable labels include radioisotopes such as barium or cesium, which emit detectable radiation but are not overtly harmful to the subject. Suitable markers for NMR and ESR include those with a detectable characteristic spin, such as deuterium, which may be incorporated into the antibody by labeling of nutrients for the relevant hybridoma. Where *in vivo* imaging is used to detect enhanced levels of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention for diagnosis in humans, it may be preferable to use human antibodies or "humanized" chimeric monoclonal antibodies. Such antibodies can be produced using techniques described herein or otherwise known in the art. For example methods for producing chimeric antibodies are known in the art. See, for review, Morrison, *Science* 229:1202 (1985); Oi et al., *BioTechniques* 4:214 (1986); Cabilly et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567; Taniguchi et al., EP 171496; Morrison et al., EP 173494; Neuberger et al., WO 8601533; Robinson et al., WO 8702671; Boulian et al., *Nature* 312:643 (1984); Neuberger et al., *Nature* 314:268 (1985).

[0584] Additionally, any heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention whose presence can be detected, can be administered. For example, BLyS polypeptides labeled with a radio-opaque or other appropriate compound can be administered and visualized *in vivo*, as discussed, above for labeled antibodies. Further such BLyS polypeptides can be utilized for *in vitro* diagnostic procedures.

[0585] An antibody or fragment thereof, specific for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, which has been labeled with an appropriate detectable imaging moiety, such as a radioisotope (for example,  $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{112}\text{In}$ ,  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ , ( $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{123}\text{I}$ ,  $^{121}\text{I}$ ), carbon ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ), sulfur ( $^{35}\text{S}$ ), tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ ), indium ( $^{115\text{m}}\text{In}$ ,  $^{113\text{m}}\text{In}$ ,  $^{112}\text{In}$ ,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ), and technetium ( $^{99}\text{Tc}$ ,  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ ), thallium ( $^{201}\text{Ti}$ ), gallium ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ ,  $^{67}\text{Ga}$ ), palladium ( $^{103}\text{Pd}$ ), molybdenum ( $^{99}\text{Mo}$ ), xenon ( $^{133}\text{Xe}$ ), fluorine ( $^{18}\text{F}$ ),  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{149}\text{Pm}$ ,  $^{140}\text{La}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{186}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{188}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{142}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{105}\text{Rh}$ ,  $^{97}\text{Ru}$ ), a radio-opaque substance, or a material detectable by

nuclear magnetic resonance, is introduced (for example, parenterally, subcutaneously or intraperitoneally) into the mammal to be examined for immune system disorder. It will be understood in the art that the size of the subject and the imaging system used will determine the quantity of imaging moiety needed to produce diagnostic images. In the case of a radioisotope moiety, for a human subject, the quantity of radioactivity injected will normally range from about 5 to 20 millicuries of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ . The labeled antibody or antibody fragment will then preferentially accumulate at the location of cells which contain the heteromultimeric polypeptide complex(es) of the invention. *In vivo* tumor imaging is described in S.W. Burchiel et al., "Immunopharmacokinetics of Radiolabeled Antibodies and Their Fragments" (Chapter 13 in *Tumor Imaging: The Radiochemical Detection of Cancer*, S.W. Burchiel and B. A. Rhodes, eds., Masson Publishing Inc. (1982)).

[0586] With respect to antibodies, one of the ways in which the antibody specific for a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention can be detectably labeled is by linking the same to an enzyme and using the linked product in an enzyme immunoassay (EIA) (Voller, A., "The Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)", 1978, Diagnostic Horizons 2:1-7, Microbiological Associates Quarterly Publication, Walkersville, MD); Voller et al., *J. Clin. Pathol.* 31:507-520 (1978); Butler, J.E., *Meth. Enzymol.* 73:482-523 (1981); Maggio, E. (ed.), 1980, Enzyme Immunoassay, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL.; Ishikawa, E. et al., (eds.), 1981, Enzyme Immunoassay, Kgaku Shoin, Tokyo). The enzyme which is bound to the antibody will react with an appropriate substrate, preferably a chromogenic substrate, in such a manner as to produce a chemical moiety which can be detected, for example, by spectrophotometric, fluorimetric or by visual means. Enzymes which can be used to detectably label the antibody include, but are not limited to, malate dehydrogenase, staphylococcal nuclease, delta-5-steroid isomerase, yeast alcohol dehydrogenase, alpha-glycerophosphate, dehydrogenase, triose phosphate isomerase, horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, asparaginase, glucose oxidase, beta-galactosidase, ribonuclease, urease, catalase, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase, glucoamylase and acetylcholinesterase. Additionally, the detection can be accomplished by colorimetric methods which employ a chromogenic substrate for the enzyme. Detection may also be accomplished by visual comparison of the extent of enzymatic reaction of a substrate in comparison with similarly prepared standards.

[0587] Detection may also be accomplished using any of a variety of other immunoassays. For example, by radioactively labeling the antibodies or antibody fragments, it is possible to detect BLyS through the use of a radioimmunoassay (RIA) (see, for example, Weintraub, B., Principles of Radioimmunoassays, Seventh Training Course on Radioligand Assay Techniques, The Endocrine Society, March, 1986, which is incorporated by reference herein). The radioactive isotope can be detected by means including, but not limited to, a gamma counter, a scintillation counter, or autoradiography.

[0588] It is also possible to label the antibody with a fluorescent compound. When the fluorescently labeled antibody is exposed to light of the proper wave-length, its presence can then be detected due to fluorescence. Among the most commonly used fluorescent labeling compounds are fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, phycoerythrin, phycocyanin, allophycocyanin, ophthaldehyde and fluorescamine.

[0589] The antibody can also be detectably labeled using fluorescence emitting metals such as <sup>152</sup>Eu, or others of the lanthanide series. These metals can be attached to the antibody using such metal chelating groups as diethylenetriaminepentacetic acid (DTPA) or ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA).

[0590] The antibody also can be detectably labeled by coupling it to a chemiluminescent compound. The presence of the chemiluminescent-tagged antibody is then determined by detecting the presence of luminescence that arises during the course of a chemical reaction. Examples of particularly useful chemiluminescent labeling compounds are luminol, isoluminol, theromatic acridinium ester, imidazole, acridinium salt and oxalate ester.

[0591] Likewise, a bioluminescent compound may be used to label the antibody of the present invention. Bioluminescence is a type of chemiluminescence found in biological systems in, which a catalytic protein increases the efficiency of the chemiluminescent reaction. The presence of a bioluminescent protein is determined by detecting the presence of luminescence. Important bioluminescent compounds for purposes of labeling include, but are not limited to, luciferin, luciferase and aequorin.

**TREATMENT OF IMMUNE SYSTEM-RELATED DISORDERS**

[0592] As noted above, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and antibodies of the invention, are useful for diagnosis of conditions involving abnormally high or low expression of such heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes. Given the cells and tissues where heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention are expressed as well as the activities modulated by heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, it is readily apparent that a substantially altered (increased or decreased) level of expression of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in an individual compared to the standard or "normal" level produces pathological conditions related to the bodily system(s) in which heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention are expressed and/or are active.

[0593] It will also be appreciated by one of ordinary skill that, since the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention comprise individual TNF ligand family polypeptides, the extracellular domains of the respective proteins, contributing to heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, may be released in soluble form from the cells which express individual TNF ligands by proteolytic cleavage and therefore, when heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (particularly in soluble form of the respective extracellular domains) is added from an exogenous source to cells, tissues or the body of an individual, the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention will exert their modulating activities on any of their target cells of that individual. Also, cells expressing one or more type II transmembrane proteins which comprise heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may be added to cells, tissues or the body of an individual whereby the added cells will bind to cells expressing receptor(s) for one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention whereby the cells expressing one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention can cause responses (e.g., proliferation or cytotoxicity) in the receptor-bearing target cells.

[0594] In one embodiment, the invention provides a method of delivering compositions containing the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention (e.g., compositions containing heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or antibodies thereto, associated with heterologous polypeptides, heterologous nucleic acids, toxins, or prodrugs) to targeted cells, such as, for example, B cells expressing

receptor(s) for the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or monocytes expressing cell surface bound forms of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. Antibodies of the invention may be associated with heterologous polypeptides, heterologous nucleic acids, toxins, or prodrugs via hydrophobic, hydrophilic, ionic and/or covalent interactions.

[0595] In one embodiment, the invention provides a method for the specific delivery of compositions of the invention to cells by administering heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention that are associated with heterologous polypeptides or nucleic acids. In one example, the invention provides a method for delivering a therapeutic protein into the targeted cell. In another example, the invention provides a method for delivering a single stranded nucleic acid (e.g., antisense or ribozymes) or double stranded nucleic acid (e.g., DNA that can integrate into the cell's genome or replicate episomally and that can be transcribed) into the targeted cell.

[0596] In another embodiment, the invention provides for a method of killing cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin. In specific embodiments, the method of killing cells of hematopoietic origin, comprises, or alternatively consists of, administering to an animal in which such killing is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in an amount effective to kill cells of hematopoietic origin. Cells of hematopoietic origin include, but are not limited to, lymphocytes (e.g., B cells and T cells), monocytes, macrophages, dendritic cells, polymorphonuclear leukocytes (e.g., basophils, eosinophils, neutrophils), mast cells, platelets, erythrocytes and progenitor cells of these lineages. Cells of hematopoietic origin include, but are not limited to, healthy and diseased cell as found present in an animal, preferably a mammal and most preferably a human, or as isolated from an animal, transformed cells, cell lines derived from the above listed cell types, and cell cultures derived from the above listed cell types. Cells of hematopoietic origin may be found or isolated in, for example, resting, activated or anergic states.

[0597] In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for the specific destruction (i.e., killing) of cells (e.g., the destruction of tumor cells) by administering one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes or polypeptide complex conjugates of

the invention (e.g., heteromultimeric polypeptide complex(es) conjugated with radioisotopes, toxins, or cytotoxic prodrugs) in which such destruction of cells is desired.

[0598] In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for the specific destruction of cells (e.g., the destruction of tumor cells) by administering heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs.

[0599] In a specific embodiment, the invention provides a method for the specific destruction of cells of B cell lineage (e.g., B cell related leukemias or lymphomas) by administering heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in association with toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs.

[0600] In another specific embodiment, the invention provides a method for the specific destruction of cells of monocytic lineage (e.g., monocytic leukemias or lymphomas) by administering antibodies to heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in association with toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs.

[0601] For example, biodistribution studies (See Example 12) of radiolabelled BLyS polypeptide (amino acids 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:30) that had been injected into BALB/c mice demonstrated that BLyS has high in vivo targeting specificity for lymphoid tissues such as spleen and lymph nodes. Thus in specific embodiments, the invention provides a method for the specific destruction or disablement of lymphoid tissue (e.g., lymph nodes and spleen) by administering heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs. In preferred embodiments, the lymphoid tissue is not permanently destroyed, but rather is temporarily disabled, (e.g, cells of hematopoietic lineage in lymphoid tissues are destroyed/killed while heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are administered, but these populations recover once administration of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs is stopped.)

[0602] By "toxin" is meant compounds that bind and activate endogenous cytotoxic effector systems, radioisotopes, holotoxins, modified toxins, catalytic subunits of toxins, cytotoxins (cytotoxic agents), or any molecules or enzymes not normally present in or on the surface of a cell that under defined conditions cause the cell's death. Toxins that may

be used according to the methods of the invention include, but are not limited to, radioisotopes known in the art, compounds such as, for example, antibodies (or complement fixing containing portions thereof) that bind an inherent or induced endogenous cytotoxic effector system, thymidine kinase, endonuclease, RNase, alpha toxin, ricin, abrin, *Pseudomonas* exotoxin A, diphtheria toxin, saporin, momordin, gelonin, pokeweed antiviral protein, alpha-sarcin and cholera toxin. "Toxin" also includes a cytostatic or cytoidal agent, a therapeutic agent or a radioactive metal ion, e.g., alpha-emitters such as, for example, <sup>213</sup>Bi, or other radioisotopes such as, for example, <sup>103</sup>Pd, <sup>133</sup>Xe, <sup>131</sup>I, <sup>68</sup>Ge, <sup>57</sup>Co, <sup>65</sup>Zn, <sup>85</sup>Sr, <sup>32</sup>P, <sup>35</sup>S, <sup>90</sup>Y, <sup>153</sup>Sm, <sup>153</sup>Gd, <sup>169</sup>Yb, <sup>51</sup>Cr, <sup>54</sup>Mn, <sup>75</sup>Se, <sup>113</sup>Sn, <sup>90</sup>Yttrium, <sup>117</sup>Tin, <sup>186</sup>Rhenium, <sup>166</sup>Holmium, and <sup>188</sup>Rhenium; luminescent labels, such as luminol; and fluorescent labels, such as fluorescein and rhodamine, and biotin.

[0603] Techniques known in the art may be applied to label polypeptides and antibodies of the invention. Such techniques include, but are not limited to, the use of bifunctional conjugating agents (see e.g., U.S. Patent Nos. 5,756,065; 5,714,631; 5,696,239; 5,652,361; 5,505,931; 5,489,425; 5,435,990; 5,428,139; 5,342,604; 5,274,119; 4,994,560; and 5,808,003; the contents of each of which are hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety) and direct coupling reactions (e.g., Bolton-Hunter and Chloramine-T reaction).

[0604] A cytotoxin or cytotoxic agent includes any agent that is detrimental to cells. Examples include paclitaxol, cytochalasin B, gramicidin D, ethidium bromide, emetine, mitomycin, etoposide, tenoposide, vincristine, vinblastine, colchicin, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, dihydroxy anthracin dione, mitoxantrone, mithramycin, actinomycin D, 1-dehydrotestosterone, glucocorticoids, procaine, tetracaine, lidocaine, propranolol, and puromycin and analogs or homologs thereof. Therapeutic agents include, but are not limited to, antimetabolites (e.g., methotrexate, 6-mercaptopurine, 6-thioguanine, cytarabine, 5-fluorouracil decarbazine), alkylating agents (e.g., mechlorethamine, thioepa chlorambucil, melphalan, carmustine (BSNU) and lomustine (CCNU), cyclothosphamide, busulfan, dibromomannitol, streptozotocin, mitomycin C, and cis-dichlorodiamine platinum (II) (DDP) cisplatin), anthracyclines (e.g., daunorubicin (formerly daunomycin) and doxorubicin), antibiotics (e.g., dactinomycin (formerly actinomycin), bleomycin, mithramycin, and anthramycin (AMC)), and anti-mitotic agents (e.g., vincristine and vinblastine).

[0605] By "cytotoxic prodrug" is meant a non-toxic compound that is converted by an enzyme, normally present in the cell, into a cytotoxic compound. Cytotoxic prodrugs that may be used according to the methods of the invention include, but are not limited to, glutamyl derivatives of benzoic acid mustard alkylating agent, phosphate derivatives of etoposide or mitomycin C, cytosine arabinoside, daunorubisin, and phenoxyacetamide derivatives of doxorubicin.

[0606] In specific embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of autoimmune diseases. In preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of systemic lupus erythematosus. In further preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis including advanced rheumatoid arthritis. In preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP).

[0607] In other preferred embodiments one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of Sjögren's syndrome. In other preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of IgA nephropathy. In other preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of Myasthenia gravis. In preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of multiple sclerosis. In still other preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in association

with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs are used to treat or ameliorate the symptoms of vasculitis.

[0608] In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production), comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies inhibits or reduces immunoglobulin production. In specific embodiments, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell dependent antigens, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies inhibits or reduces immunoglobulin production in response to T cell dependent antigens. In specific embodiments, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell independent antigens, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies inhibits or reduces immunoglobulin production in response to T cell independent antigens.

[0609] In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production), comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such inhibition or reduction is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to inhibit or reduce immunoglobulin production. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell dependent antigens, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such inhibition or reduction is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in

an amount effective to inhibit or reduce immunoglobulin production in response to T cell dependent antigens. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell independent antigens, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such inhibition or reduction is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to inhibit or reduce immunoglobulin production in response to T cell independent antigens.

[0610] In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production), comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies stimulates immunoglobulin production. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell dependent antigens comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies stimulates immunoglobulin production in response to T cell dependent antigens. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell independent antigens comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies stimulates immunoglobulin production in response to T cell independent antigens.

[0611] In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such stimulation is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or

antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to stimulate immunoglobulin production. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell dependent antigens comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such stimulation is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to stimulate immunoglobulin production in response to T cell dependent antigens. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating immunoglobulin production (e.g. IgM, IgG, and/or IgA production) in response to T cell independent antigens comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such stimulation is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to stimulate immunoglobulin production in response to T cell independent antigens.

[0612] Determination of immunoglobulin levels are most often performed by comparing the level of immunoglobulin in a sample to a standard containing a known amount of immunoglobulin using ELISA assays. Determination of immunoglobulin levels in a given sample, can readily be determined using ELISA or other method known in the art.

[0613] Receptors belonging to the TNF receptor (TNFR) super family (e.g., TACI and BCMA, receptors to which heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention bind) can be classified into two types based on the presence or absence of a conserved cytoplasmic domain responsible for apoptosis called a "death domain." TNF receptors without death domains, such as TNF-R2 HVEM/ATAR, RANK, CD27, CD30, CD40, and OX40 interact with TNF receptor associated factors (TRAF 1-6) and mediate anti-apoptotic survival and or proliferative responses via activation of the transcription factor NF-kappaB (reviewed in Wajant et al., Cytokine and Growth Factor Reviews 10(1):15-26, 1999). TACI and BCMA do not contain death domains.

[0614] For example, investigation of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, which bind TACI and BCMA, induced signaling in human tonsillar B cells co-stimulated with Staph. Aureus Cowan consistently revealed that mRNA for ERK-1 and PLK were upregulated by BLyS + SAC treatment (see Example 11). Polo like kinases

(PLK) belong to a sub family of serine/threonine kinases related to *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* cell cycle protein CDC5 (29). The expression of PLK is induced during G2 and S phase of the cell cycle. PLK is reported to play a role in cell proliferation (Lee et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 95:9301 – 9306). The role or extracellular-signal related kinases (ERK1/2) in cell survival and proliferative effects of growth factors and other agonists has been extensively studied. The induced expression of PLK and ERK-1 is consistent with the survival and proliferative effects of BLyS on B cells.

[0615] Additionally, in some samples of human tonsillar B cells stimulated with, for example, BLyS and SAC, mRNA for CD25 (IL-2R $\alpha$ ) was upregulated. Nuclear extracts from Human tonsillar B cells treated with, for example, BLyS and from IM-9 cells treated with, for example, BLyS were able to shift probes from the CD25 promoter region containing sites for NF- $\kappa$ B, SRF, ELF-1 and HMGI/Y in an electromobility shift assay. ELF-1 for example, is a transcription factor that is part of the ETS family of proteins and whose expression appears to be restricted to T and B cells. Binding sites for ELF-1 have been described in the promoters of a number of proteins that are important in the regulation of the immune response.

[0616] Thus, by way of example, BLyS induced signaling has been shown to be consistent with the activation of cellular activation and cellular proliferation pathways as well as with cellular signaling pathways that regulate B cell lifespan. Further, treatment of B cells with, for example, BLyS or BLyS-SV induces cellular proliferation immunoglobulin secretion, a characteristic of activated B cells (Moore et al., Science 285:260-263, 1999). One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention may inhibit, stimulate, or not significantly alter these BLyS and/or BLySSV mediated activities.

[0617] In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies inhibits or reduces proliferation of cells of hemtopoietic origin mediated by, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing reducing

proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such inhibition or reduction is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to inhibit or reduce B cell proliferation. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0618] In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies stimulates proliferation of cells of hemtopoietic origin mediated by, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV. In another embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for stimulating proliferation of cells of hematopoietic origin comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such stimulation is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to stimulate B cell proliferation. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells. B cell proliferation is most commonly assayed in the art by measuring tritiated thymidine incorporation (see Examples 6 & 7). This and other assays are commonly known in the art and could be routinely adapted for the use of determining the effect of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention on B cell proliferation.

[0619] In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies inhibits or reduces activation of cells of hematopoietic origin mediated by, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV. In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting or reducing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such inhibition or reduction is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to inhibit

or reduce activation of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0620] In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for increasing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies increases activation of cells of hematopoietic origin mediated by, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV. In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for increasing activation of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such increase is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to increase activation of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0621] B cell activation can measured in a variety of ways, such as FACS analysis of activation markers expressed on B cells. B cells activation markers include, but are not limited to, CD26, CD 28, CD 30, CD 38, CD 39, CD 69, CD70 CD71 , CD 77, CD 83, CD126, CDw130, and B220. Additionally, B cell activation may be measured by analysis of the activation of signaling molecules involved in B cell activation. By way of non-limiting example, such analysis may take the form of analyzing mRNA levels of signaling molecules by Northern analysis or real time PCR (See Example 11). One can also measure, for example, the phosphorylation of signaling molecules using anti-phosphotyrosine antibodies in a Western blot. B cell activation may also be measured by measuring the calcium levels in B cells. These and other methods of determining B cell activation are commonly known in the art and could be routinely adapted for the use of determining the effect of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention on B cell activation.

[0622] In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for decreasing lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies

inhibits or reduces the lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin regulated by, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV. In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for decreasing lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such decrease is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to decrease lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0623] In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for increasing lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, contacting an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention with cells of hematopoietic origin, wherein the effective amount of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies increases the lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin regulated by, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV. In one embodiment, the invention provides methods and compositions for increasing lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin, comprising, or alternatively consisting of, administering to an animal in which such increase is desired, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention in an amount effective to increase lifespan of cells of hematopoietic origin. In preferred embodiments, the cells of hematopoietic origin are B cells.

[0624] B cell life span in vivo may be measured by 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine (BrdU) labeling experiments which are well known to one skilled in the art. BrdU is a thymidine analogue that gets incorporated into the DNA of dividing cells. Cells containing BrdU in their DNA can be detected using, for example fluorescently labeled anti-BrdU antibody and flow cytometry. Briefly, an animal is injected with BrdU in an amount sufficient to label developing B cells. Then, a sample of B cells is withdrawn from the animal, for example, from peripheral blood, and analyzed for the percentage of cells that contain BrdU. Such an analysis performed at several time points can be used to calculate the half life of B cells. Alternatively, B cell survival may be measured in vitro. For example B cells may be cultured under conditions where proliferation does not occur, (for example the media should contain no reagents that crosslink the immunoglobulin receptor, such as anti-IgM antibodies) for a period of time (usually 2-4 days). At the end of this time, the percent of surviving cells is determined, using for instance, the vital dye Trypan Blue, or

by staining cells with propidium iodide or any other agent designed to specifically stain apoptotic cells and analyzing the percentage of cells stained using flow cytometry. One could perform this experiment under several conditions, such as B cells treated with one heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, B cells treated with more than one heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention, B cells treated with one antibody of the invention, B cells treated with more than one antibody of the invention, and untreated B cells in order to determine the effects of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention on B cells survival. These and other methods for determining B cell lifespan are commonly known in the art and could routinely be adapted to determining the effect of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention on B cell lifespan regulated by, for example, BLyS and/or BLyS-SV.

[0625] It will be appreciated that conditions caused by a decrease in the standard or normal level of activity of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in an individual, particularly disorders of the immune system, can be treated by administration of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies and/or agonists or antagonists of the invention (e.g., in the form of soluble extracellular domain complexes or cells expressing one or more complete protein). Thus, the invention also provides a method of treatment of an individual in need of an increased level of activity of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention comprising administering to such an individual a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonist thereof, effective to increase the activity of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in such an individual.

[0626] It will also be appreciated that conditions caused by an increase in the standard or normal level of activity of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in an individual, particularly disorders of the immune system, can be treated by administration of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention (in the form of soluble extracellular domain or cells expressing the complete protein) or antagonist (e.g., antibody). Thus, the invention also provides a method of treatment of an individual in need of a decreased level of activity of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, comprising administering

to such an individual a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonist or antagonist thereof, effective to decrease the activity of said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in such an individual. A non-limiting example of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention of the invention that can be administered to an individual in need of a decreased level of activity of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, is a heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention containing, for example, a dominant negative mutant of a BLyS and/or BLyS-SV polypeptide, which binds to a receptor but that does not induce signal transduction.

[0627] Autoantibody production is common to several autoimmune diseases and contributes to tissue destruction and exacerbation of disease. Autoantibodies can also lead to the occurrence of immune complex deposition complications and lead to many symptoms of systemic lupus erythematosus, including kidney failure, neuralgic symptoms and death. Modulating antibody production independent of cellular response would also be beneficial in many disease states. B cells have also been shown to play a role in the secretion of arthritogenic immunoglobulins in rheumatoid arthritis, (Korganow et al., Immunity 10:451-61, 1999). As such, inhibition of antibody production would be beneficial in treatment of autoimmune diseases such as myasthenia gravis and rheumatoid arthritis. Compounds of the invention that selectively block or neutralize the action of B-lymphocytes would be useful for such purposes. To verify these capabilities in compositions of the present invention, such compositions are evaluated using assays known in the art and described herein.

[0628] The invention provides methods employing compositions of the invention (e.g., one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and/or agonists and/or antagonists thereof) for selectively blocking or neutralizing the actions of B-cells in association with end stage renal diseases, which may or may not be associated with autoimmune diseases. Such methods would also be useful for treating immunologic renal diseases. Such methods would be useful for treating glomerulonephritis associated with diseases such as membranous nephropathy, IgA nephropathy or Berger's Disease, IgM nephropathy, Goodpasture's Disease, post-infectious glomerulonephritis, mesangioproliferative disease, minimal-change nephrotic syndrome. Such methods would

also serve as therapeutic applications for treating secondary glomerulonephritis or vasculitis associated with such diseases as lupus, polyarteritis, Henoch-Schonlein, Scleroderma, HIV-related diseases, amyloidosis or hemolytic uremic syndrome. The methods of the present invention would also be useful as part of a therapeutic application for treating interstitial nephritis or pyelonephritis associated with chronic pyelonephritis, analgesic abuse, nephrocalcinosis, nephropathy caused by other agents, nephrolithiasis, or chronic or acute interstitial nephritis.

[0629] The methods of the present invention also include use of compositions of the invention in the treatment of hypertensive or large vessel diseases, including renal artery stenosis or occlusion and cholesterol emboli or renal emboli.

[0630] The present invention also provides methods for diagnosis and treatment of renal or urological neoplasms, multiple myelomas, lymphomas, light chain neuropathy or amyloidosis.

[0631] The invention also provides methods for blocking or inhibiting activated B cells using compositions of the invention for the treatment of asthma and other chronic airway diseases such as bronchitis and emphysema.

[0632] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, can be used in the treatment of infectious agents. For example, by increasing the immune response, particularly increasing the proliferation and differentiation of B cells, infectious diseases may be treated. The immune response may be increased by either enhancing an existing immune response, or by initiating a new immune response. Alternatively, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, may also directly inhibit the infectious agent, without necessarily eliciting an immune response.

[0633] Viruses are one example of an infectious agent that can cause disease or symptoms that can be treated by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof. Examples of viruses, include, but are not limited to the following DNA and RNA viruses and viral families: Arbovirus, Adenoviridae, Arenaviridae, Arterivirus, Birnaviridae, Bunyaviridae, Caliciviridae, Circoviridae, Coronaviridae, Dengue, EBV, HIV, Flaviviridae, Hepadnaviridae (Hepatitis), Herpesviridae (such as, Cytomegalovirus, Herpes Simplex,

Herpes Zoster), Mononegavirus (e.g., Paramyxoviridae, Morbillivirus, Rhabdoviridae), Orthomyxoviridae (e.g., Influenza A, Influenza B, and parainfluenza), Papiloma virus, Papovaviridae, Parvoviridae, Picornaviridae, Poxviridae (such as Smallpox or Vaccinia), Reoviridae (e.g., Rotavirus), Retroviridae (HTLV-I, HTLV-II, Lentivirus), and Togaviridae (e.g., Rubivirus). Viruses falling within these families can cause a variety of diseases or symptoms, including, but not limited to: arthritis, bronchiolitis, respiratory syncytial virus, encephalitis, eye infections (e.g., conjunctivitis, keratitis), chronic fatigue syndrome, hepatitis (A, B, C, E, Chronic Active, Delta), Japanese B encephalitis, Junin, Chikungunya, Rift Valley fever, yellow fever, meningitis, opportunistic infections (e.g., AIDS), pneumonia, Burkitt's Lymphoma, chickenpox, hemorrhagic fever, Measles, Mumps, Parainfluenza, Rabies, the common cold, Polio, leukemia, Rubella, sexually transmitted diseases, skin diseases (e.g., Kaposi's, warts), and viremia. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, can be used to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or detect any of these symptoms or diseases. In specific embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose: meningitis, Dengue, EBV, and/or hepatitis (e.g., hepatitis B). In additional specific embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat patients nonresponsive to one or more other commercially available hepatitis vaccines. In a further specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose AIDS. In an additional specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose patients with cryptosporidiosis.

[0634] Similarly, bacterial or fungal agents that can cause disease or symptoms and that can be treated by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, include, but are not limited to, the following Gram-Negative and Gram-positive bacteria and bacterial families and fungi: Actinomycetales (e.g., Corynebacterium, Mycobacterium, Nocardia), Cryptococcus neoformans, Aspergillosis, Bacillaceae (e.g., Anthrax, Clostridium),

Bacteroidaceae, Blastomycosis, Bordetella, Borrelia (e.g., *Borrelia burgdorferi*, Brucellosis, Candidiasis, Campylobacter, Coccidioidomycosis, Cryptococcosis, Dermatocycoses, *E. coli* (e.g., Enterotoxigenic *E. coli* and Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli*), Enterobacteriaceae (*Klebsiella*, *Salmonella* (e.g., *Salmonella typhi*, and *Salmonella paratyphi*), *Serratia*, *Yersinia*), *Erysipelothrix*, *Helicobacter*, Legionellosis, Leptospirosis, *Listeria* (e.g., *Listeria monocytogenes*), Mycoplasmatales, *Mycobacterium leprae*, *Vibrio cholerae*, Neisseriaceae (e.g., *Acinetobacter*, Gonorrhea, Menigococcal), *Meisseria meningitidis*, Pasteurellacea Infections (e.g., *Actinobacillus*, *Heamophilus* (e.g., *Heamophilus influenza* type B), *Pasteurella*), *Pseudomonas*, Rickettsiaceae, Chlamydiaceae, Syphilis, *Shigella* spp., Staphylococcal, Meningiococcal, Pneumococcal and Streptococcal (e.g., *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and Group B *Streptococcus*). These bacterial or fungal families can cause the following diseases or symptoms, including, but not limited to: bacteremia, endocarditis, eye infections (conjunctivitis, tuberculosis, uveitis), gingivitis, opportunistic infections (e.g., AIDS related infections), paronychia, prosthesis-related infections, Reiter's Disease, respiratory tract infections, such as Whooping Cough or Empyema, sepsis, Lyme Disease, Cat-Scratch Disease, Dysentery, Paratyphoid Fever, food poisoning, Typhoid, pneumonia, Gonorrhea, meningitis (e.g., meningitis types A and B), Chlamydia, Syphilis, Diphtheria, Leprosy, Paratuberculosis, Tuberculosis, Lupus, Botulism, gangrene, tetanus, impetigo, Rheumatic Fever, Scarlet Fever, sexually transmitted diseases, skin diseases (e.g., cellulitis, dermatocycoses), toxemia, urinary tract infections, wound infections. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, can be used to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or detect any of these symptoms or diseases. In specific embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose: tetanus, Diphteria, botulism, and/or meningitis type B.

[0635] Moreover, parasitic agents causing disease or symptoms that can be treated by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, include, but not limited to, the following families or class: Amebiasis, Babesiosis, Coccidiosis, Cryptosporidiosis, Dientamoebiasis, Dourine, Ectoparasitic, Giardiasis, Helminthiasis, Leishmaniasis, Theileriasis, Toxoplasmosis, Trypanosomiasis, and Trichomonas and Sporozoans (e.g., *Plasmodium virax*, *Plasmodium*

*falciparium*, *Plasmodium malariae* and *Plasmodium ovale*). These parasites can cause a variety of diseases or symptoms, including, but not limited to: Scabies, Trombiculiasis, eye infections, intestinal disease (e.g., dysentery, giardiasis), liver disease, lung disease, opportunistic infections (e.g., AIDS related), malaria, pregnancy complications, and toxoplasmosis. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, can be used to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or detect any of these symptoms or diseases. In specific embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose malaria.

[0636] In another embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose inner ear infection (such as, for example, otitis media), as well as other infections characterized by infection with *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and other pathogenic organisms.

[0637] In a specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat or prevent a disorder characterized by deficient serum immunoglobulin production, recurrent infections, and/or immune system dysfunction. Moreover, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, may be used to treat or prevent infections of the joints, bones, skin, and/or parotid glands, blood-borne infections (e.g., sepsis, meningitis, septic arthritis, and/or osteomyelitis), autoimmune diseases (e.g., those disclosed herein), inflammatory disorders, and malignancies, and/or any disease or disorder or condition associated with these infections, diseases, disorders and/or malignancies) including, but not limited to, CVID, other primary immune deficiencies, HIV disease, CLL, multiple myeloma, recurrent bronchitis, sinusitis, otitis media, conjunctivitis, pneumonia, hepatitis, meningitis, herpes zoster (e.g., severe herpes zoster), and/or pneumocystis carmii.

[0638] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, may be used to diagnose, prognose, treat or prevent one or more of the following diseases or disorders, or conditions associated therewith: primary immunodeficiencies, immune-mediated thrombocytopenia, Kawasaki syndrome, bone marrow transplant (e.g., recent bone marrow transplant in adults or

children), chronic B-cell lymphocytic leukemia, HIV infection (e.g., adult or pediatric HIV infection), chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, and post-transfusion purpura.

[0639] Additionally, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, may be used to diagnose, prognose, treat or prevent one or more of the following diseases, disorders, or conditions associated therewith, Guillain-Barre syndrome, anemia (e.g., anemia associated with parvovirus B19, patients with stable multiple myeloma who are at high risk for infection (e.g., recurrent infection), autoimmune hemolytic anemia (e.g., warm-type autoimmune hemolytic anemia), thrombocytopenia (e.g., neonatal thrombocytopenia), and immune-mediated neutropenia), transplantation (e.g., cytomegalovirus (CMV)-negative recipients of CMV-positive organs), hypogammaglobulinemia (e.g., hypogammaglobulinemic neonates with risk factor for infection or morbidity), epilepsy (e.g., intractable epilepsy), systemic vasculitic syndromes, myasthenia gravis (e.g., decompensation in myasthenia gravis), dermatomyositis, and polymyositis.

[0640] Additional preferred embodiments of the invention include, but are not limited to, the use of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, in the following applications:

[0641] Administration to an animal (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, hamster, guinea pig, pigs, micro-pig, chicken, camel, goat, horse, cow, sheep, dog, cat, non-human primate, and human, most preferably human) to boost the immune system to produce increased quantities of one or more antibodies (e.g., IgG, IgA, IgM, and IgE), to promote or enhance immunoglobulin class switching (e.g., to induce a B cell express an IgM antibody to class switch to a different immunoglobulin isotype such as IgG, IgA, or IgE), to induce higher affinity antibody production (e.g., IgG, IgA, IgM, and IgE, for instance, by the modulation of the rate or quantity of somatic hypermutation or by modulation of the process/mechanism of selection of B cells expressing mutated antibodies), and/or to increase an immune response. In a specific nonexclusive embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to boost the immune system to produce increased quantities of IgG. In another specific nonexclusive embodiment, one or more

heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to boost the immune system to produce increased quantities of IgA. In another specific nonexclusive embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to boost the immune system to produce increased quantities of IgM.

[0642] Administration to an animal (including, but not limited to, those listed above, and also including transgenic animals) incapable of producing functional endogenous antibody molecules or having an otherwise compromised endogenous immune system, but which is capable of producing human immunoglobulin molecules by means of a reconstituted or partially reconstituted immune system from another animal (see, e.g., published PCT Application Nos. WO98/24893, WO/9634096, WO/9633735, and WO/9110741).

[0643] A vaccine adjuvant that enhances immune responsiveness to specific antigen. In a specific embodiment, the vaccine adjuvant is one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, described herein. In another specific embodiment, the vaccine adjuvant comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, described herein. As discussed herein, polynucleotides encoding one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, may be administered using techniques known in the art, including but not limited to, liposomal delivery, recombinant vector delivery, injection of naked DNA, and gene gun delivery.

[0644] An adjuvant to enhance tumor-specific immune responses.

[0645] An adjuvant to enhance anti-viral immune responses. Anti-viral immune responses that may be enhanced using the compositions of the invention as an adjuvant, include, but are not limited to, virus and virus associated diseases or symptoms described herein or otherwise known in the art. In specific embodiments, the compositions of the invention are used as an adjuvant to enhance an immune response to a virus, disease, or symptom selected from the group consisting of: AIDS, meningitis, Dengue, EBV, and hepatitis (e.g., hepatitis B). In another specific embodiment, the compositions of the

invention are used as an adjuvant to enhance an immune response to a virus, disease, or symptom selected from the group consisting of: HIV/AIDS, Respiratory syncytial virus, Dengue, Rotavirus, Japanese B encephalitis, Influenza A and B, Parainfluenza, Measles, Cytomegalovirus, Rabies, Junin, Chikungunya, Rift Valley fever, Herpes simplex, and yellow fever. In another specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are used as an adjuvant to enhance an immune response to the HIV gp120 antigen.

[0646] An adjuvant to enhance anti-bacterial or anti-fungal immune responses. Anti-bacterial or anti-fungal immune responses that may be enhanced using the compositions of the invention as an adjuvant, include bacteria or fungus and bacteria or fungus associated diseases or symptoms described herein or otherwise known in the art. In specific embodiments, the compositions of the invention are used as an adjuvant to enhance an immune response to a bacterium or fungus, disease, or symptom selected from the group consisting of: tetanus, Diphtheria, botulism, and meningitis type B. In another specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are used as an adjuvant to enhance an immune response to a bacteria or fungus, disease, or symptom selected from the group consisting of: Vibrio cholerae, Mycobacterium leprae, Salmonella typhi, Salmonella paratyphi, Meisseria meningitidis, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Group B streptococcus, Shigella spp., Enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli, Enterohemorrhagic E. coli, Borrelia burgdorferi, and Plasmodium (malaria).

[0647] An adjuvant to enhance anti-parasitic immune responses. Anti-parasitic immune responses that may be enhanced using the compositions of the invention as an adjuvant, include parasite and parasite associated diseases or symptoms described herein or otherwise known in the art. In specific embodiments, the compositions of the invention are used as an adjuvant to enhance an immune response to a parasite. In another specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are used as an adjuvant to enhance an immune response to Plasmodium (malaria).

[0648] As a stimulator of B cell responsiveness to pathogens.

[0649] As an agent that elevates the immune status of an individual prior to their receipt of immunosuppressive therapies.

[0650] As an agent to induce production of higher affinity antibodies.

[0651] As an agent to induce class switching of B cells expressing IgM antibodies.

- [0652] As an agent to induce class switching of activated B cells expressing IgM antibodies.
- [0653] As an agent to increase serum immunoglobulin concentrations.
- [0654] As an agent to accelerate recovery of immunocompromised individuals.
- [0655] As an agent to boost immunoresponsiveness among aged populations.
- [0656] As an immune system enhancer prior to, during, or after bone marrow transplant and/or other transplants (e.g., allogeneic or xenogeneic organ transplantation). With respect to transplantation, compositions of the invention may be administered prior to, concomitant with, and/or after transplantation. In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered after transplantation, prior to the beginning of recovery of T-cell populations. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are first administered after transplantation after the beginning of recovery of T cell populations, but prior to full recovery of B cell populations.
- [0657] As an agent to boost immunoresponsiveness among B cell immunodeficient individuals, such as, for example, an individual who has undergone a partial or complete splenectomy. B cell immunodeficiencies that may be ameliorated or treated by administering one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, include, but are not limited to, severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID)-X linked, SCID-autosomal, adenosine deaminase deficiency (ADA deficiency), X-linked agammaglobulinemia (XLA), Bruton's disease, congenital agammaglobulinemia, X-linked infantile agammaglobulinemia, acquired agammaglobulinemia, adult onset agammaglobulinemia, late-onset agammaglobulinemia, dysgammaglobulinemia, hypogammaglobulinemia, transient hypogammaglobulinemia of infancy, unspecified hypogammaglobulinemia, agammaglobulinemia, common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) (acquired), Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome (WAS), X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, non X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper IgM, selective IgA deficiency, IgG subclass deficiency (with or without IgA deficiency), antibody deficiency with normal or elevated IgS, immunodeficiency with thymoma, Ig heavy chain deletions, kappa chain deficiency, B cell lymphoproliferative disorder (BLPD), selective IgM immunodeficiency, recessive agammaglobulinemia (Swiss type), reticular dysgenesis, neonatal neutropenia, severe congenital leukopenia, thymic alymphoplasia-aplasia or dysplasia with immunodeficiency, ataxia-telangiectasia, short

limbed dwarfism, X-linked lymphoproliferative syndrome (XLP), Nezelof syndrome-combined immunodeficiency with IgS, purine nucleoside phosphorylase deficiency (PNP), MHC Class II deficiency (Bare Lymphocyte Syndrome) and severe combined immunodeficiency.

[0658] As an agent to boost immunoresponsiveness among individuals having an acquired loss of B cell function. Conditions resulting in an acquired loss of B cell function that may be ameliorated or treated by administering one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, include, but are not limited to, HIV Infection, AIDS, bone marrow transplant, multiple myeloma and B cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).

[0659] Patients with CLL and myeloma are at risk for increased infections. Thus, one aspect of the present invention provides for the use of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, as an agent to boost immunoresponsiveness in CLL and myeloma patients.

[0660] As an agent to boost immunoresponsiveness among individuals having a temporary immune deficiency. Conditions resulting in a temporary immune deficiency that may be ameliorated or treated by administering one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, include, but are not limited to, recovery from viral infections (e.g., influenza), conditions associated with malnutrition, recovery from infectious mononucleosis, or conditions associated with stress, recovery from measles, recovery from blood transfusion, recovery from surgery, and recovery from burns.

[0661] As a regulator of antigen presentation by monocytes, dendritic cells, and/or B-cells. In one embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, enhance antigen presentation or antagonize antigen presentation in vitro or in vivo. Moreover, in related embodiments, this enhancement or antagonization of antigen presentation may be useful in anti-tumor treatment or to modulate the immune system.

[0662] As a mediator of mucosal immune responses. The expression of TNF ligand family member polypeptides, for example, BLyS by monocytes and the responsiveness of B cells to this factor suggests that it may be involved in exchange of signals between B cells and monocytes or their differentiated progeny. This activity is in many ways

analogous to the CD40-CD154 signaling between B cells and T cells. Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may therefore be important regulators of T cell independent immune responses to environmental pathogens. In particular, the unconventional B cell populations (CD5+) that are associated with mucosal sites and responsible for much of the innate immunity in humans may respond to one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, thereby enhancing an individual's protective immune status.

[0663] As an agent to direct an individual's immune system towards development of a humoral response (i.e. TH2) as opposed to a TH1 cellular response.

[0664] As a means to induce tumor proliferation and thus make it more susceptible to anti-neoplastic agents. For example, multiple myeloma is a slowly dividing disease and is thus refractory to virtually all anti-neoplastic regimens. If these cells were forced to proliferate more rapidly their susceptibility profile would likely change.

[0665] As a B cell specific binding protein to which specific activators or inhibitors of cell growth may be attached. The result would be to focus the activity of such activators or inhibitors onto normal, diseased, or neoplastic B cell populations.

[0666] As a means of detecting B-lineage cells by virtue of its specificity. This application may require labeling the protein with biotin or other agents (e.g., as described herein) to afford a means of detection.

[0667] As a stimulator of B cell production in pathologies such as AIDS, chronic lymphocyte disorder and/or Common Variable Immunodeficiency.

[0668] As part of a B cell selection device the function of which is to isolate B cells from a heterogenous mixture of cell types. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, could be coupled to a solid support to which B cells would then specifically bind. Unbound cells would be washed out and the bound cells subsequently eluted. A nonlimiting use of this selection would be to allow purging of tumor cells from, for example, bone marrow or peripheral blood prior to transplant.

[0669] As a therapy for generation and/or regeneration of lymphoid tissues following surgery, trauma or genetic defect.

[0670] As a gene-based therapy for genetically inherited disorders resulting in immuno-incompetence such as observed among SCID patients.

- [0671] As an antigen for the generation of antibodies to inhibit or enhance TNF ligand-mediated responses.
- [0672] As a means of activating monocytes/macrophages to defend against parasitic diseases that effect monocytes such as Leshmania.
- [0673] As pretreatment of bone marrow samples prior to transplant. Such treatment would increase B cell representation and thus accelerate recover.
- [0674] As a means of regulating secreted cytokines that are elicited by TNF ligands.
- [0675] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, may be used to modulate IgE concentrations in vitro or in vivo.
- [0676] Additionally, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, may be used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose IgE-mediated allergic reactions. Such allergic reactions include, but are not limited to, asthma, rhinitis, and eczema.
- [0677] In a specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate selective IgA deficiency.
- [0678] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate ataxia-telangiectasia.
- [0679] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate common variable immunodeficiency.
- [0680] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate X-linked agammaglobulinemia.
- [0681] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID).

[0682] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.

[0683] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate X-linked Ig deficiency with hyper IgM.

[0684] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose chronic myelogenous leukemia, acute myelogenous leukemia, leukemia, hystiocytic leukemia, monocytic leukemia (e.g., acute monocytic leukemia), leukemic reticulosis, Shilling Type monocytic leukemia, and/or other leukemias derived from monocytes and/or monocytic cells and/or tissues.

[0685] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate monocytic leukemoid reaction, as seen, for example, with tuberculosis.

[0686] In another specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are administered to treat, prevent, diagnose, and/or ameliorate monocytic leukocytosis, monocytic leukopenia, moncytopenia, and/or monocytosis.

[0687] In a specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, detect, and/or diagnose primary B lymphocyte disorders and/or diseases, and/or conditions associated therewith. In one embodiment, such primary B lymphocyte disorders, diseases, and/or conditions are characterized by a complete or partial loss of humoral immunity. Primary B lymphocyte disorders, diseases, and/or conditions associated therewith that are characterized by a complete or partial loss of humoral immunity and that may be prevented, treated, detected and/or diagnosed with compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, X-Linked Agammaglobulinemia (XLA), severe combined immunodeficiency disease (SCID), and selective IgA deficiency.

[0688] In a preferred embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose diseases or disorders affecting or conditions associated with any one or more of the various mucous membranes of the body. Such diseases or disorders include, but are not limited to, for example, mucositis, mucoclasia, mucocolitis, mucocutaneous leishmaniasis (such as, for example, American leishmaniasis, leishmaniasis americana, nasopharyngeal leishmaniasis, and New World leishmaniasis), mucocutaneous lymph node syndrome (for example, Kawasaki disease), mucoenteritis, mucoepidermoid carcinoma, mucoepidermoid tumor, mucoepithelial dysplasia, mucoid adenocarcinoma, mucoid degeneration, myxoid degeneration; myxomatous degeneration; myxomatosis, mucoid medial degeneration (for example, cystic medial necrosis), mucolipidosis (including, for example, mucolipidosis I, mucolipidosis II, mucolipidosis III, and mucolipidosis IV), mucolysis disorders, mucomembranous enteritis, mucoenteritis, mucopolysaccharidosis (such as, for example, type I mucopolysaccharidosis (i.e., Hurler's syndrome), type IS mucopolysaccharidosis (i.e., Scheie's syndrome or type V mucopolysaccharidosis), type II mucopolysaccharidosis (i.e., Hunter's syndrome), type III mucopolysaccharidosis (i.e., Sanfilippo's syndrome), type IV mucopolysaccharidosis (i.e., Morquio's syndrome), type VI mucopolysaccharidosis (i.e., Maroteaux-Lamy syndrome), type VII mucopolysaccharidosis (i.e., mucopolysaccharidosis due to beta-glucuronidase deficiency), and mucosulfatidosis), mucopolysacchariduria, mucopurulent conjunctivitis, mucopus, mucormycosis (i.e., zygomycosis), mucosal disease (i.e., bovine virus diarrhea), mucous colitis (such as, for example, mucocolitis and myxomembranous colitis), and mucoviscidosis (such as, for example, cystic fibrosis, cystic fibrosis of the pancreas, Clarke-Hadfield syndrome, fibrocystic disease of the pancreas, mucoviscidosis, and viscidosis). In a highly preferred embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose mucositis, especially as associated with chemotherapy.

[0689] In a preferred embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose diseases or disorders affecting or conditions associated with sinusitis.

[0690] An additional condition, disease or symptom that can be treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, is osteomyelitis.

[0691] An additional condition, disease or symptom that can be treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, or agonists and/or antagonists thereof, is endocarditis.

[0692] All of the above described applications as they may apply to veterinary medicine.

[0693] Antagonists of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies of the invention, include binding and/or inhibitory antibodies, antisense nucleic acids, ribozymes, and polypeptide complexes of the invention. These would be expected to reverse many of the activities of the ligand described above as well as find clinical or practical application as:

[0694] A means of blocking various aspects of immune responses to foreign agents or self. Examples include autoimmune disorders such as lupus, and arthritis, as well as immunoresponsiveness to skin allergies, inflammation, bowel disease, injury and pathogens. For example, cell types other than B cells and moocytes may gain expression or responsiveness to one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. Thus, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, may, like CD40 and its ligand, be regulated by the status of the immune system and the microenvironment in which the cell is located.

[0695] A therapy for preventing the B cell proliferation and Ig secretion associated with autoimmune diseases such as idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, systemic lupus erythematosus and MS.

[0696] An inhibitor of graft versus host disease or transplant rejection.

[0697] A therapy for B cell malignancies such as ALL, Hodgkins disease, non-Hodgkins lymphoma, Chronic lymphocyte leukemia, plasmacytomas, multiple myeloma, Burkitt's lymphoma, and EBV-transformed diseases.

[0698] A therapy for chronic hyper gammaglobulinemia evident in such diseases as monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS), Waldenstrom's disease, related idiopathic monoclonal gammopathies, and plasmacytomas.

[0699] A therapy for decreasing cellular proliferation of Large B-cell Lymphomas.

[0700] A means of decreasing the involvement of B cells and Ig associated with Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia.

[0701] An immunosuppressive agent(s).

[0702] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be used to modulate IgE concentrations in vitro or in vivo.

[0703] In another embodiment, administration of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose IgE-mediated allergic reactions including, but not limited to, asthma, rhinitis, and eczema.

[0704] An inhibitor of signaling pathways involving ERK1, COX2 and Cyclin D2 which have been associated with B cell activation.

[0705] The above-recited applications have uses in a wide variety of hosts. Such hosts include, but are not limited to, human, murine, rabbit, goat, guinea pig, camel, horse, mouse, rat, hamster, pig, micro-pig, chicken, goat, cow, sheep, dog, cat, non-human primate, and human. In specific embodiments, the host is a mouse, rabbit, goat, guinea pig, chicken, rat, hamster, pig, sheep, dog or cat. In preferred embodiments, the host is a mammal. In most preferred embodiments, the host is a human.

[0706] The agonists and antagonists may be employed in a composition with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, e.g., as described herein.

[0707] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be employed for instance to inhibit chemotaxis and activation of macrophages and their precursors, and of neutrophils, basophils, B lymphocytes and some T-cell subsets, e.g., activated and CD8 cytotoxic T cells and natural killer cells, in certain auto-immune and chronic inflammatory and infective diseases. Examples of auto-immune diseases include multiple sclerosis, and insulin-dependent diabetes. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose infectious diseases including silicosis, sarcoidosis, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis by preventing the recruitment and activation of mononuclear phagocytes. They may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose idiopathic hyper-eosinophilic syndrome by preventing eosinophil production and migration.

Endotoxic shock may also be treated by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, by preventing the migration of macrophages and their production of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed for treating atherosclerosis, by preventing monocyte infiltration in the artery wall. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose histamine-mediated allergic reactions and immunological disorders including late phase allergic reactions, chronic urticaria, and atopic dermatitis by inhibiting chemokine-induced mast cell and basophil degranulation and release of histamine. IgE-mediated allergic reactions such as allergic asthma, rhinitis, and eczema may also be treated. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose chronic and acute inflammation by preventing the attraction of monocytes to a wound area. They may also be employed to regulate normal pulmonary macrophage populations, since chronic and acute inflammatory pulmonary diseases are associated with sequestration of mononuclear phagocytes in the lung. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose rheumatoid arthritis by preventing the attraction of monocytes into synovial fluid in the joints of patients. Monocyte influx and activation plays a significant role in the pathogenesis of both degenerative and inflammatory arthropathies. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be employed to interfere with the deleterious cascades attributed primarily to IL-1 and TNF, which prevents the biosynthesis of other inflammatory cytokines. In this way, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be employed to prevent inflammation. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to inhibit prostaglandin-independent. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention,

may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose cases of bone marrow failure, for example, aplastic anemia and myelodysplastic syndrome. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose asthma and allergy by preventing eosinophil accumulation in the lung. They may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose subepithelial basement membrane fibrosis which is a prominent feature of the asthmatic lung. They may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose lymphomas (e.g., one or more of the extensive, but not limiting, list of lymphomas provided herein).

[0708] All of the above described applications as they may apply to veterinary medicine. Moreover, all applications described herein may also apply to veterinary medicine.

[0709] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose various immune system-related disorders and/or conditions associated with these disorders, in mammals, preferably humans. Many autoimmune disorders result from inappropriate recognition of self as foreign material by immune cells. This inappropriate recognition results in an immune response leading to the destruction of the host tissue. Therefore, the administration of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, that can inhibit an immune response, particularly the proliferation of B cells and/or the production of immunoglobulins, may be an effective therapy in treating and/or preventing autoimmune disorders. Thus, in preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an autoimmune disorder.

[0710] Autoimmune disorders and conditions associated with these disorders that may be treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed with one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention,, include, but are not limited to, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune neutropenia, autoimmune neonatal thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, autoimmunocytopenia, hemolytic anemia, antiphospholipid syndrome, dermatitis, allergic encephalomyelitis, myocarditis, relapsing polychondritis, rheumatic heart disease, glomerulonephritis (e.g, IgA nephropathy), dense deposit disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Neuritis, Uveitis Ophthalmia,

Polyendocrinopathies, Purpura (e.g., Henloch-Schoenlein purpura), Reiter's Disease, Stiff-Man Syndrome, Autoimmune Pulmonary Inflammation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, gluten sensitive enteropathy, insulin dependent diabetes mellitis, discoid lupus, and autoimmune inflammatory eye disease.

[0711] Additional autoimmune disorders (that are highly probable) that may be treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, autoimmune thyroiditis, hypothyroidism (i.e., Hashimoto's thyroiditis) (often characterized, e.g., by cell-mediated and humoral thyroid cytotoxicity), systemic lupus erythematosus (often characterized, e.g., by circulating and locally generated immune complexes), Goodpasture's syndrome (often characterized, e.g., by anti-basement membrane antibodies), Pemphigus (often characterized, e.g., by epidermal acantholytic antibodies), Receptor autoimmunities such as, for example, (a) Graves' Disease (often characterized, e.g., by TSH receptor antibodies), (b) Myasthenia Gravis (often characterized, e.g., by acetylcholine receptor antibodies), and (c) insulin resistance (often characterized, e.g., by insulin receptor antibodies), autoimmune hemolytic anemia (often characterized, e.g., by phagocytosis of antibody-sensitized RBCs), autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura (often characterized, e.g., by phagocytosis of antibody-sensitized platelets).

[0712] Additional autoimmune disorders (that are probable) that may be treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, rheumatoid arthritis (often characterized, e.g., by immune complexes in joints), scleroderma with anti-collagen antibodies (often characterized, e.g., by nucleolar and other nuclear antibodies), mixed connective tissue disease (often characterized, e.g., by antibodies to extractable nuclear antigens (e.g., ribonucleoprotein)), polymyositis/dermatomyositis (often characterized, e.g., by nonhistone ANA), pernicious anemia (often characterized, e.g., by antiparietal cell, microsomes, and intrinsic factor antibodies), idiopathic Addison's disease (often characterized, e.g., by humoral and cell-mediated adrenal cytotoxicity, infertility (often characterized, e.g., by antispermatozoal antibodies), glomerulonephritis (often characterized, e.g., by glomerular basement membrane antibodies or immune complexes) such as primary glomerulonephritis and IgA nephropathy, bullous pemphigoid (often characterized, e.g., by IgG and complement in basement membrane), Sjogren's syndrome (often characterized, e.g., by multiple tissue

antibodies, and/or a specific nonhistone ANA (SS-B)), diabetes mellitus (often characterized, e.g., by cell-mediated and humoral islet cell antibodies), and adrenergic drug resistance (including adrenergic drug resistance with asthma or cystic fibrosis) (often characterized, e.g., by beta-adrenergic receptor antibodies).

[0713] Additional autoimmune disorders (that are possible) that may be treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, chronic active hepatitis (often characterized, e.g., by smooth muscle antibodies), primary biliary cirrhosis (often characterized, e.g., by mitochondrial antibodies), other endocrine gland failure (often characterized, e.g., by specific tissue antibodies in some cases), vitiligo (often characterized, e.g., by melanocyte antibodies), vasculitis (often characterized, e.g., by Ig and complement in vessel walls and/or low serum complement), post-MI (often characterized, e.g., by myocardial antibodies), cardiotomy syndrome (often characterized, e.g., by myocardial antibodies), urticaria (often characterized, e.g., by IgG and IgM antibodies to IgE), atopic dermatitis (often characterized, e.g., by IgG and IgM antibodies to IgE), asthma (often characterized, e.g., by IgG and IgM antibodies to IgE), inflammatory myopathies, and many other inflammatory, granulomatous, degenerative, and atrophic disorders.

[0714] In a preferred embodiment, the autoimmune diseases and disorders and/or conditions associated with the diseases and disorders recited above are treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed using antibodies of the invention.

[0715] In a specific preferred embodiment, rheumatoid arthritis is treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed using antibodies and/or agonists and/or antagonists of the invention.

[0716] In a specific preferred embodiment, lupus is treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed using antibodies and/or agonists and/or antagonists of the invention.

[0717] In a specific preferred embodiment, nephritis associated with lupus is treated, prevented, and/or diagnosed using antibodies and/or agonists and/or antagonists of the invention.

[0718] In a specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat or prevent systemic lupus erythematosus and/or diseases, disorders or conditions associated therewith. Lupus-associated diseases, disorders, or conditions that may be treated or prevented with one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or

antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, include, but are not limited to, hematologic disorders (e.g., hemolytic anemia, leukopenia, lymphopenia, and thrombocytopenia), immunologic disorders (e.g., anti-DNA antibodies, and anti-Sm antibodies), rashes, photosensitivity, oral ulcers, arthritis, fever, fatigue, weight loss, serositis (e.g., pleuritus (pleurisy)), renal disorders (e.g., nephritis), neurological disorders (e.g., seizures, peripheral neuropathy, CNS related disorders), gastrointestinal disorders, Raynaud phenomenon, and pericarditis. In a preferred embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat or prevent renal disorders associated with systemic lupus erythematosus. In a most preferred embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat or prevent nephritis associated with systemic lupus erythematosus.

[0719] Similarly, allergic reactions and conditions, such as asthma (particularly allergic asthma) or other respiratory problems, may also be treated by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention. Moreover, these molecules can be used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose anaphylaxis, hypersensitivity to an antigenic molecule, or blood group incompatibility.

[0720] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose organ rejection or graft-versus-host disease (GVHD) and/or conditions associated therewith. Organ rejection occurs by host immune cell destruction of the transplanted tissue through an immune response. Similarly, an immune response is also involved in GVHD, but, in this case, the foreign transplanted immune cells destroy the host tissues. The administration of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, that inhibits an immune response, particularly the proliferation, differentiation, or chemotaxis of T-cells, may be an effective therapy in preventing organ rejection or GVHD.

[0721] Similarly, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be used to modulate inflammation. For example, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may inhibit the proliferation and differentiation of cells involved in an inflammatory response. These molecules can be

used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose inflammatory conditions, both chronic and acute conditions, including chronic prostatitis, granulomatous prostatitis and malacoplakia, inflammation associated with infection (e.g., septic shock, sepsis, or systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS)), ischemia-reperfusion injury, endotoxin lethality, arthritis, complement-mediated hyperacute rejection, nephritis, cytokine or chemokine induced lung injury, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, or resulting from over production of cytokines (e.g., TNF or IL-1.)

[0722] In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, prevent, modulate, detect, and/or diagnose inflammation.

[0723] In a specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, prevent, modulate, detect, and/or diagnose inflammatory disorders.

[0724] In another specific embodiment, antibodies of the invention are used to treat, prevent, modulate, detect, and/or diagnose allergy and/or hypersensitivity.

[0725] In another embodiment, therapeutic or pharmaceutical compositions of the invention (e.g., one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention) are administered to an animal to treat, prevent or ameliorate ischemia and arteriosclerosis. Examples of such disorders include, but are not limited to, reperfusion damage (e.g., in the heart and/or brain) and cardiac hypertrophy.

[0726] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be used to modulate blood clotting and to treat or prevent blood clotting disorders, such as, for example, antibody-mediated thrombosis (i.e., antiphospholipid antibody syndrome (APS)). For example, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may inhibit the proliferation and differentiation of cells involved in producing anticardiolipin antibodies. These compositions of the invention can be used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose, thrombotic related events including, but not limited to, stroke (and recurrent stroke), heart attack, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, myocardial infarction, coronary artery disease (e.g., antibody-mediated coronary artery disease), thrombosis, graft reocclusion following cardiovascular surgery (e.g., coronary arterial bypass grafts, recurrent fetal loss, and recurrent cardiovascular thromboembolic events.

[0727] Antibodies of the invention may be employed to bind to and inhibit one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose ARDS, by preventing infiltration of neutrophils into the lung after injury. The agonists and antagonists of the instant invention may be employed in a composition with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, e.g., as described hereinafter.

[0728] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose diseases and disorders of the pulmonary system (e.g., bronchi such as, for example, sinopulmonary and bronchial infections and conditions associated with such diseases and disorders and other respiratory diseases and disorders. In specific embodiments, such diseases and disorders include, but are not limited to, bronchial adenoma, bronchial asthma, pneumonia (such as, e.g., bronchial pneumonia, bronchopneumonia, and tuberculous bronchopneumonia), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), bronchial polyps, bronchiectasia (such as, e.g., bronchiectasia sicca, cylindrical bronchiectasis, and saccular bronchiectasis), bronchiolar adenocarcinoma, bronchiolar carcinoma, bronchiolitis (such as, e.g., exudative bronchiolitis, bronchiolitis fibrosa obliterans, and proliferative bronchiolitis), bronchiolo-alveolar carcinoma, bronchitic asthma, bronchitis (such as, e.g., asthmatic bronchitis, Castellani's bronchitis, chronic bronchitis, croupous bronchitis, fibrinous bronchitis, hemorrhagic bronchitis, infectious avian bronchitis, obliterative bronchitis, plastic bronchitis, pseudomembranous bronchitis, putrid bronchitis, and verminous bronchitis), bronchocentric granulomatosis, bronchoedema, bronchoesophageal fistula, bronchogenic carcinoma, bronchogenic cyst, broncholithiasis, bronchomalacia, bronchomycosis (such as, e.g., bronchopulmonary aspergillosis), bronchopulmonary spirochetosis, hemorrhagic bronchitis, bronchorrhea, bronchospasm, bronchostaxis, bronchostenosis, Biot's respiration, bronchial respiration, Kussmaul respiration, Kussmaul-Kien respiration, respiratory acidosis, respiratory alkalosis, respiratory distress syndrome of the newborn, respiratory insufficiency, respiratory scleroma, respiratory syncytial virus, and the like).

[0729] In a specific embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

[0730] In another embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose fibroses and conditions associated with fibroses, such as, for example, but not limited to, cystic fibrosis (including such fibroses as cystic fibrosis of the pancreas, Clarke-Hadfield syndrome, fibrocystic disease of the pancreas, mucoviscidosis, and viscidosis), endomyocardial fibrosis, idiopathic retroperitoneal fibrosis, leptomeningeal fibrosis, mediastinal fibrosis, nodular subepidermal fibrosis, pericentral fibrosis, perimuscular fibrosis, pipestem fibrosis, replacement fibrosis, subadventitial fibrosis, and Symmers' clay pipestem fibrosis.

[0731] The TNF family ligands are known to be among the most pleiotropic cytokines, inducing a large number of cellular responses, including cytotoxicity, anti-viral activity, immunoregulatory activities, and the transcriptional regulation of several genes (D.V. Goeddel *et al.*, "Tumor Necrosis Factors: Gene Structure and Biological Activities," *Symp. Quant. Biol.* 51:597- 609 (1986), Cold Spring Harbor; B. Beutler and A. Cerami, *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* 57:505-518 (1988); L.J. Old, *Sci. Am.* 258:59-75 (1988); W. Fiers, *FEBS Lett.* 285:199-224 (1991)). The TNF-family ligands, comprising the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, induce such various cellular responses by binding to TNF-family receptors. Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes are believed to elicit a potent cellular response including any genotypic, phenotypic, and/or morphologic change to the cell, cell line, tissue, tissue culture or patient. As indicated, such cellular responses include not only normal physiological responses to TNF-family ligands, but also diseases associated with increased apoptosis or the inhibition of apoptosis. Apoptosis-programmed cell death-is a physiological mechanism involved in the deletion of peripheral B and/or T lymphocytes of the immune system, and its disregulation can lead to a number of different pathogenic processes (J.C. Ameisen, *AIDS* 8:1197-1213 (1994); P.H. Krammer *et al.*, *Curr. Opin. Immunol.* 6:279-289 (1994)).

[0732] Diseases associated with increased cell survival, or the inhibition of apoptosis that may be diagnosed, treated, or prevented with one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, include cancers (such as follicular lymphomas, carcinomas with p53 mutations, and hormone-dependent tumors, including, but not limited to, colon cancer, cardiac tumors, pancreatic cancer, melanoma, retinoblastoma, glioblastoma, lung cancer, intestinal cancer,

testicular cancer, stomach cancer, neuroblastoma, myxoma, myoma, lymphoma, endothelioma, osteoblastoma, osteoclastoma, osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, adenoma, breast cancer, prostate cancer, Kaposi's sarcoma and ovarian cancer); autoimmune disorders (such as systemic lupus erythematosus and immune-related glomerulonephritis rheumatoid arthritis); viral infections (such as herpes viruses, pox viruses and adenoviruses); inflammation; graft vs. host disease; acute graft rejection and chronic graft rejection. Thus, in preferred embodiments one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose autoimmune diseases and/or inhibit the growth, progression, and/or metastasis of cancers, including, but not limited to, those cancers disclosed herein, such as, for example, lymphocytic leukemias (including, for example, MLL and chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)) and follicular lymphomas. In another embodiment one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to activate, differentiate or proliferate cancerous cells or tissue (e.g., B cell lineage related cancers (e.g., CLL and MLL), lymphocytic leukemia, or lymphoma) and thereby render the cells more vulnerable to cancer therapy (e.g., chemotherapy or radiation therapy).

[0733] Moreover, in other embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to inhibit the growth, progression, and/or metastases of malignancies and related disorders such as leukemia (including acute leukemias (e.g., acute lymphocytic leukemia, acute myelocytic leukemia (including myeloblastic, promyelocytic, myelomonocytic, monocytic, and erythroleukemia)) and chronic leukemias (e.g., chronic myelocytic (granulocytic) leukemia and chronic lymphocytic leukemia)), polycythemia vera, lymphomas (e.g., Hodgkin's disease and non-Hodgkin's disease), multiple myeloma, Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia, heavy chain disease, and solid tumors including, but not limited to, sarcomas and carcinomas such as fibrosarcoma, myxosarcoma, liposarcoma, chondrosarcoma, osteogenic sarcoma, chordoma, angiosarcoma, endotheliosarcoma, lymphangiosarcoma, lymphangioendotheliosarcoma, synovioma, mesothelioma, Ewing's tumor, leiomyosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, colon carcinoma, pancreatic cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, prostate cancer, squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, sweat gland carcinoma, sebaceous

gland carcinoma, papillary carcinoma, papillary adenocarcinomas, cystadenocarcinoma, medullary carcinoma, bronchogenic carcinoma, renal cell carcinoma, hepatoma, bile duct carcinoma, choriocarcinoma, seminoma, embryonal carcinoma, Wilm's tumor, cervical cancer, testicular tumor, lung carcinoma, small cell lung carcinoma, bladder carcinoma, epithelial carcinoma, glioma, astrocytoma, medulloblastoma, craniopharyngioma, ependymoma, pinealoma, hemangioblastoma, acoustic neuroma, oligodendrogioma, meningioma, melanoma, neuroblastoma, and retinoblastoma.

[0734] Diseases associated with increased apoptosis apoptosis that may be diagnosed, treated, or prevented with one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, include AIDS; neurodegenerative disorders (such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Retinitis pigmentosa, Cerebellar degeneration); myelodysplastic syndromes (such as aplastic anemia), ischemic injury (such as that caused by myocardial infarction, stroke and reperfusion injury), toxin-induced liver disease (such as that caused by alcohol), septic shock, cachexia and anorexia. Thus, in preferred embodiments one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose the diseases and disorders listed above.

[0735] In preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, inhibit the growth of human histiocytic lymphoma U-937 cells in a dose-dependent manner. In additional preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, inhibit the growth of PC-3 cells, HT-29 cells, HeLa cells, MCF-7 cells, and A293 cells. In highly preferred embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to inhibit growth, progression, and/or metastasis of prostate cancer, colon cancer, cervical carcinoma, and breast carcinoma.

[0736] Thus, in additional preferred embodiments, the present invention is directed to a method for enhancing apoptosis induced by a TNF-family ligand, which involves administering to a cell which expresses a TNF receptor family member polypeptide, an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or

antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, capable of increasing or decreasing signaling mediated by that receptor. Preferably, signaling is increased or decreased to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose a disease wherein decreased apoptosis or decreased cytokine and adhesion molecule expression is exhibited. An agonist or antagonist can include soluble forms of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and monoclonal antibodies directed against these heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes.

[0737] In a further aspect, the present invention is directed to a method for inhibiting apoptosis induced by a TNF-family ligand, which involves administering to a cell which expresses the a TNF-family receptor an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, capable of increasing or decreasing signaling mediated by that TNF-family receptor. Preferably, such signaling mediated by a TNF-family receptor is increased or decreased to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose a disease wherein increased apoptosis or NF-kappaB expression is exhibited. An agonist or antagonist can include soluble forms of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and monoclonal antibodies directed against these heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes.

[0738] Because heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention comprise polypeptides of the TNF superfamily, the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes should also modulate angiogenesis. In addition, since heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention inhibit immune cell functions, the heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes will have a wide range of anti-inflammatory activities. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be employed as an anti-neovascularizing agent to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose solid tumors by stimulating the invasion and activation of host defense cells, e.g., cytotoxic T cells and macrophages and by inhibiting the angiogenesis of tumors. Those of skill in the art will recognize other non-cancer indications where blood vessel proliferation is not wanted. They may also be employed to enhance host defenses against resistant chronic and acute infections, for example, myobacterial infections via the attraction and activation of microbicidal leukocytes. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to inhibit T-cell proliferation by the inhibition of IL-2 biosynthesis for the treatment of T-cell

mediated auto-immune diseases and lymphocytic leukemias (including, for example, chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)). One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to stimulate wound healing, both via the recruitment of debris clearing and connective tissue promoting inflammatory cells. In this same manner, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose other fibrotic disorders, including liver cirrhosis, osteoarthritis and pulmonary fibrosis. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, also increase the presence of eosinophils that have the distinctive function of killing the larvae of parasites that invade tissues, as in schistosomiasis, trichinosis and ascariasis. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to regulate hematopoiesis, by regulating the activation and differentiation of various hematopoietic progenitor cells, for example, to release mature leukocytes from the bone marrow following chemotherapy, i.e., in stem cell mobilization. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may also be employed to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose sepsis.

[0739] Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are useful in the diagnosis and treatment or prevention of a wide range of diseases and/or conditions. Such diseases and conditions include, but are not limited to, cancer (e.g., immune cell related cancers, breast cancer, prostate cancer, ovarian cancer, follicular lymphoma, cancer associated with mutation or alteration of p53, brain tumor, bladder cancer, uterocervical cancer, colon cancer, colorectal cancer, non-small cell carcinoma of the lung, small cell carcinoma of the lung, stomach cancer, etc.), lymphoproliferative disorders (e.g., lymphadenopathy), microbial (e.g., viral, bacterial, etc.) infection (e.g., HIV-1 infection, HIV-2 infection, herpesvirus infection (including, but not limited to, HSV-1, HSV-2, CMV, VZV, HHV-6, HHV-7, EBV), adenovirus infection, poxvirus infection, human papilloma virus infection, hepatitis infection (e.g., HAV, HBV, HCV, etc.), Helicobacter pylori infection, invasive Staphylococcia, etc.), parasitic infection, nephritis, bone disease (e.g., osteoporosis), atherosclerosis, pain, cardiovascular disorders (e.g., neovascularization, hypovascularization or reduced

circulation (e.g., ischemic disease (e.g., myocardial infarction, stroke, etc.)), AIDS, allergy, inflammation, neurodegenerative disease (e.g., Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, pigmentary retinitis, cerebellar degeneration, etc.), graft rejection (acute and chronic), graft vs. host disease, diseases due to osteomyelodysplasia (e.g., aplastic anemia, etc.), joint tissue destruction in rheumatism, liver disease (e.g., acute and chronic hepatitis, liver injury, and cirrhosis), autoimmune disease (e.g., multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, immune complex glomerulonephritis, autoimmune diabetes, autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura, Grave's disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, etc.), cardiomyopathy (e.g., dilated cardiomyopathy), diabetes, diabetic complications (e.g., diabetic nephropathy, diabetic neuropathy, diabetic retinopathy), influenza, asthma, psoriasis, glomerulonephritis, septic shock, and ulcerative colitis.

[0740] Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are useful in promoting angiogenesis, wound healing (e.g., wounds, burns, and bone fractures). Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are also useful as an adjuvant to enhance immune responsiveness to specific antigen, anti-viral immune responses.

[0741] More generally, heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are useful in regulating (i.e., elevating or reducing) immune response. For example, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, may be useful in preparation or recovery from surgery, trauma, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and transplantation, or may be used to boost immune response and/or recovery in the elderly and immunocompromised individuals. Alternatively, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are useful as immunosuppressive agents, for example in the treatment or prevention of autoimmune disorders. In specific embodiments, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, are used to treat or prevent chronic inflammatory, allergic or autoimmune conditions, such as those described herein or are otherwise known in the art.

[0742] Preferably, treatment using one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, could either

be by administering an effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, to the patient, or by removing cells from the patient, supplying the cells with one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, and returning the engineered cells to the patient (ex vivo therapy). Moreover, as further discussed herein, the one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, can be used as an adjuvant in a vaccine to raise an immune response against infectious disease.

#### ***FORMULATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION***

[0743] The heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention will be formulated and dosed in a fashion consistent with good medical practice, taking into account the clinical condition of the individual patient (especially the side effects of treatment with heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention alone), the site of delivery of the composition, the method of administration, the scheduling of administration, and other factors known to practitioners. The "effective amount" of heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention for purposes herein is thus determined by such considerations.

[0744] As a general proposition, the total pharmaceutically effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention administered parenterally per dose will be in the range of about 1 microgram/kg/day to 10 mg/kg/day of patient body weight, although, as noted above, this will be subject to therapeutic discretion. More preferably, this dose is at least 0.01 mg/kg/day, and most preferably for humans between about 0.01 and 1 mg/kg/day.

[0745] In another embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention of the invention are administered to a human at a dose between 0.0001 and 0.045 mg/kg/day, preferably, at a dose between 0.0045 and 0.045 mg/kg/day, and more preferably, at a dose of about 45 microgram/kg/day in humans; and at a dose of about 3 mg/kg/day in mice.

[0746] If given continuously, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention are typically administered at a dose rate of about 1 microgram/kg/hour to about 50 micrograms/kg/hour, either by 1-4 injections per day or by continuous subcutaneous infusions, for example, using a mini-pump. An intravenous bag solution may also be employed.

[0747] The length of treatment needed to observe changes and the interval following treatment for responses to occur appears to vary depending on the desired effect.

[0748] In a specific embodiment, the total pharmaceutically effective amount of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention administered parenterally per dose will be in the range of about 0.1 microgram/kg/day to 45 micrograms/kg/day of patient body weight, although, as noted above, this will be subject to therapeutic discretion. More preferably, this dose is at least 0.1 microgram/kg/day, and most preferably for humans between about 0.01 and 50 micrograms/kg/day for the protein. One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention may be administered as a continuous infusion, multiple discreet injections per day (e.g., three or more times daily, or twice daily), single injection per day, or as discreet injections given intermittently (e.g., twice daily, once daily, every other day, twice weekly, weekly, biweekly, monthly, bimonthly, and quarterly). If given continuously, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention are typically administered at a dose rate of about 0.001 to 10 microgram/kg/ hour to about 50 micrograms/kg/hour, either by 1-4 injections per day or by continuous subcutaneous infusions, for example, using a mini-pump.

[0749] Effective dosages of the compositions of the present invention to be administered may be determined through procedures well known to those in the art which address such parameters as biological half-life, bioavailability, and toxicity. Such determination is well within the capability of those skilled in the art, especially in light of the detailed disclosure provided herein.

[0750] Bioexposure of an organism to one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention during therapy may also play an important role in determining a therapeutically and/or

pharmacologically effective dosing regime. Variations of dosing such as repeated administrations of a relatively low dose of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention for a relatively long period of time may have an effect which is therapeutically and/or pharmacologically distinguishable from that achieved with repeated administrations of a relatively high dose of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention for a relatively short period of time. See, for instance, the serum immunoglobulin level experiments presented in Example 6.

[0751] Using the equivalent surface area dosage conversion factors supplied by Freireich, E. J., et al. (*Cancer Chemotherapy Reports* 50(4):219-44 (1966)), one of ordinary skill in the art is able to conveniently convert data obtained from the use of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention in a given experimental system into an accurate estimation of a pharmaceutically effective amount of a heteromultimeric polypeptide complex of the invention to be administered per dose in another experimental system. Experimental data obtained through the administration, for example, of BLyS in mice (see, for instance, Example 6) may be converted through the conversion factors supplied by Freireich, et al., to accurate estimates of pharmaceutically effective doses of BLyS in rat, monkey, dog, and human. The following conversion table (Table III) is a summary of the data provided by Freireich, et al. Table III gives approximate factors for converting doses expressed in terms of mg/kg from one species to an equivalent surface area dose expressed as mg/kg in another species tabulated.

**Table III. Equivalent Surface Area Dosage Conversion Factors.**

		<i>-TO-</i>				
<i>--FROM--</i>		Mouse <u>(20g)</u>	Rat <u>(150g)</u>	Monkey <u>(3.5kg)(8kg)</u>	Dog <u>(60kg)</u>	Human
Mouse	1	1/2	1/4	1/6	1/12	
Rat	2	1	1/2	1/4	1/7	
Monkey	4	2	1	3/5	1/3	
Dog	6	4	5/3	1	1/2	
Human	12	7	3	2	1	

[0752] Thus, for example, using the conversion factors provided in Table III, a dose of 50 mg/kg in the mouse converts to an appropriate dose of 12.5 mg/kg in the monkey because  $(50 \text{ mg/kg}) \times (1/4) = 12.5 \text{ mg/kg}$ . As an additional example, doses of 0.02, 0.08, 0.8, 2, and 8 mg/kg in the mouse equate to effect doses of 1.667 micrograms/kg, 6.67 micrograms/kg, 66.7 micrograms/kg, 166.7 micrograms/kg, and 0.667 mg/kg, respectively, in the human.

[0753] Pharmaceutical compositions containing one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention may be administered orally, rectally, parenterally, subcutaneously, intracistemally, intravaginally, intraperitoneally, topically (as by powders, ointments, drops or transdermal patch), buccally, or as an oral or nasal spray (e.g., via inhalation of a vapor or powder). In one embodiment, "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" means a non-toxic solid, semisolid or liquid filler, diluent, encapsulating material or formulation auxiliary of any type. In a specific embodiment, "pharmaceutically acceptable" means approved by a regulatory agency of the federal or a state government or listed in the U.S. Pharmacopeia or other generally recognized pharmacopeia for use in animals, and more particularly humans. Nonlimiting examples of suitable pharmaceutical carriers according to this embodiment are provided in "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences" by E.W. Martin, and include sterile liquids, such as water and oils, including those of petroleum, animal, vegetable or synthetic origin, such as peanut oil, soybean oil, mineral oil, sesame oil and the like. Water is a preferred carrier when the pharmaceutical composition is administered intravenously. Saline solutions and aqueous dextrose and glycerol solutions can be

employed as liquid carriers, particularly for injectable solutions. The composition, if desired, can also contain minor amounts of wetting or emulsifying agents, or pH buffering agents. These compositions can take the form of solutions, suspensions, emulsion, tablets, pills, capsules, powders, sustained-release formulations and the like.

[0754] The term "parenteral" as used herein refers to modes of administration which include intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intrasternal, subcutaneous and intraarticular injection and infusion.

[0755] In a preferred embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention are administered subcutaneously.

[0756] In another preferred embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention are administered intravenously.

[0757] Compositions of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention are also suitably administered by sustained-release systems. Suitable examples of sustained-release compositions include suitable polymeric materials (such as, for example, semi-permeable polymer matrices in the form of shaped articles, e.g., films, or microcapsules), suitable hydrophobic materials (for example as an emulsion in an acceptable oil) or ion exchange resins, and sparingly soluble derivatives (such as, for example, a sparingly soluble salt).

[0758] Sustained-release matrices include polylactides (U.S. Pat. No. 3,773,919, EP 58,481), copolymers of L-glutamic acid and gamma-ethyl-L-glutamate (Sidman, U. et al., *Biopolymers* 22:547-556 (1983)), poly (2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate) (R. Langer et al., *J. Biomed. Mater. Res.* 15:167-277 (1981), and R. Langer, *Chem. Tech.* 12:98-105 (1982)), ethylene vinyl acetate (R. Langer et al., Id.) or poly-D-(-)-3-hydroxybutyric acid (EP 133,988).

[0759] Sustained-release compositions also include liposomally entrapped compositions of the invention (see generally, Langer, *Science* 249:1527-1533 (1990); Treat et al., in *Liposomes in the Therapy of Infectious Disease and Cancer*, Lopez-Berestein and Fidler (eds.), Liss, New York, pp. 317 -327 and 353-365 (1989)). Liposomes containing BLyS and/or BLySSV polypeptide may be prepared by methods known per se: DE 3,218,121; Epstein et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA)* 82:3688-3692

(1985); Hwang et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA) 77:4030-4034 (1980); EP 52,322; EP 36,676; EP 88,046; EP 143,949; EP 142,641; Japanese Pat. Appl. 83-118008; U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,485,045 and 4,544,545; and EP 102,324. Ordinarily, the liposomes are of the small (about 200-800 Angstroms) unilamellar type in which the lipid content is greater than about 30 mol. percent cholesterol, the selected proportion being adjusted for the optimal BLyS and/or BLySSV polypeptide therapy.

[0760] In another embodiment sustained release compositions of the invention include crystal formulations known in the art.

[0761] In yet an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are delivered by way of a pump (*see* Langer, *supra*; Sefton, CRC Crit. Ref. Biomed. Eng. 14:201 (1987); Buchwald et al., Surgery 88:507 (1980); Saudek et al., N. Engl. J. Med. 321:574 (1989)).

[0762] Other controlled release systems are discussed in the review by Langer (*Science* 249:1527-1533 (1990)).

[0763] For parenteral administration, in one embodiment, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention is formulated generally by mixing it at the desired degree of purity, in a unit dosage injectable form (solution, suspension, or emulsion), with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, i.e., one that is non-toxic to recipients at the dosages and concentrations employed and is compatible with other ingredients of the formulation. For example, the formulation preferably does not include oxidizing agents and other compounds that are known to be deleterious to polypeptides.

[0764] Generally, the formulations are prepared by contacting one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention uniformly and intimately with liquid carriers or finely divided solid carriers or both. Then, if necessary, the product is shaped into the desired formulation. Preferably the carrier is a parenteral carrier, more preferably a solution that is isotonic with the blood of the recipient. Examples of such carrier vehicles include water, saline, Ringer's solution, and dextrose solution. Non-aqueous vehicles such as fixed oils and ethyl oleate are also useful herein, as well as liposomes.

[0765] The carrier suitably contains minor amounts of additives such as substances that enhance isotonicity and chemical stability. Such materials are non-toxic to recipients

at the dosages and concentrations employed, and include buffers such as phosphate, citrate, succinate, acetic acid, and other organic acids or their salts; antioxidants such as ascorbic acid; low molecular weight (less than about ten residues) polypeptides, e.g., polyarginine or tripeptides; proteins, such as serum albumin, gelatin, or immunoglobulins; hydrophilic polymers such as polyvinylpyrrolidone; amino acids, such as glycine, glutamic acid, aspartic acid, or arginine; monosaccharides, disaccharides, and other carbohydrates including cellulose or its derivatives, glucose, manose, sucrose, or dextrins; chelating agents such as EDTA; sugar alcohols such as mannitol or sorbitol; counterions such as sodium; preservatives, such as cresol, phenol, chlorobutanol, benzyl alcohol and parabens, and/or nonionic surfactants such as polysorbates, poloxamers, or PEG.

[0766] One or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention is typically formulated in such vehicles at a concentration of about 0.001 mg/ml to 100 mg/ml, or 0.1 mg/ml to 100 mg/ml, preferably 1-10 mg/ml or 1-10 mg/ml, at a pH of about 3 to 10, or 3 to 8, more preferably 5-8, most preferably 6-7. It will be understood that the use of certain of the foregoing excipients, carriers, or stabilizers will result in the formation of polypeptide salts.

[0767] Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention to be used for therapeutic administration must be sterile. Sterility is readily accomplished by filtration through sterile filtration membranes (e.g., 0.2 micron membranes). Therapeutic compositions of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention generally are placed into a container having a sterile access port, for example, an intravenous solution bag or vial having a stopper pierceable by a hypodermic injection needle.

[0768] Heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention ordinarily will be stored in unit or multi-dose containers, for example, sealed ampoules or vials, as an aqueous solution or as a lyophilized formulation for reconstitution. As an example of a lyophilized formulation, 10-ml vials are filled with 5 ml of sterile-filtered 1% (w/v) aqueous solution of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention, and the resulting mixture is lyophilized. The infusion solution is prepared by reconstituting the lyophilized material using bacteriostatic Water-for-Injection.

[0769] Alternatively, one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention are stored in single dose containers in lyophilized form. The infusion selection is reconstituted using a sterile carrier for injection.

[0770] The invention also provides a pharmaceutical pack or kit comprising one or more containers filled with one or more of the ingredients of the pharmaceutical compositions of the invention. Optionally, associated with such container(s) is a notice in the form prescribed by a governmental agency regulating the manufacture, use or sale of pharmaceuticals or biological products, which notice reflects approval by the agency of manufacture, use or sale for human administration. In addition, the polypeptides of the present invention may be employed in conjunction with other therapeutic compounds.

[0771] The compositions of the invention may be administered alone or in combination with other adjuvants. Adjuvants that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, alum, alum plus deoxycholate (ImmunoAg), MTP-PE (Biocine Corp.), QS21 (Genentech, Inc.), BCG, and MPL. In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with alum. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with QS-21. Further adjuvants that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, Monophosphoryl lipid immunomodulator, AdjuVax 100a, QS-21, QS-18, CRL1005, Aluminum salts, MF-59, and Virosomal adjuvant technology. Vaccines that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, vaccines directed toward protection against MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), polio, varicella, tetanus/diphtheria, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, haemophilus influenzae B, whooping cough, pneumonia, influenza, Lyme's Disease, rotavirus, cholera, yellow fever, Japanese encephalitis, poliomyelitis, rabies, typhoid fever, and pertussis, and/or PNEUMOVAX-23™. Combinations may be administered either concomitantly, e.g., as an admixture, separately but simultaneously or concurrently; or sequentially. This includes presentations in which the combined agents are administered together as a therapeutic mixture, and also procedures in which the combined agents are administered separately but simultaneously, e.g., as through separate intravenous lines into the same individual. Administration "in

"combination" further includes the separate administration of one of the compounds or agents given first, followed by the second.

[0772] In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention (e.g., one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes and/or antibodies, or agonists and/or antagonists, of the invention) may be administered to patients as vaccine adjuvants. In a further specific embodiment, compositions of the invention may be administered as vaccine adjuvants to patients suffering from an immune-deficiency. In a further specific embodiment, compositions of the invention may be administered as vaccine adjuvants to patients suffering from HIV.

[0773] In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention may be used to increase or enhance antigen-specific antibody responses to standard and experimental vaccines. In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention may be used to enhance seroconversion in patients treated with standard and experimental vaccines. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention may be used to increase the number of unique epitopes recognized by antibodies elicited by standard and experimental vaccination.

[0774] In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in combination with PNEUMOVAX-23™ to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose infection and/or any disease, disorder, and/or condition associated therewith. In one embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in combination with PNEUMOVAX-23™ to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose any Gram positive bacterial infection and/or any disease, disorder, and/or condition associated therewith. In another embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in combination with PNEUMOVAX-23™ to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose infection and/or any disease, disorder, and/or condition associated with one or more members of the genus *Enterococcus* and/or the genus *Streptococcus*. In another embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with PNEUMOVAX-23™ to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose infection and/or any disease, disorder, and/or condition associated with one or more members of the Group B streptococci. In another embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in combination with PNEUMOVAX-23™ to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose infection and/or any disease, disorder, and/or condition associated with *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.

[0775] The compositions of the invention may be administered alone or in combination with other therapeutic agents, including but not limited to, chemotherapeutic agents, antibiotics, antivirals, steroidal and non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, conventional immunotherapeutic agents and cytokines. Combinations may be administered either concomitantly, e.g., as an admixture, separately but simultaneously or concurrently; or sequentially. This includes presentations in which the combined agents are administered together as a therapeutic mixture, and also procedures in which the combined agents are administered separately but simultaneously, e.g., as through separate intravenous lines into the same individual. Administration "in combination" further includes the separate administration of one of the compounds or agents given first, followed by the second.

[0776] In one embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with other members of the TNF family. TNF, TNF-related or TNF-like molecules that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, soluble forms of TNF-alpha, lymphotoxin-alpha (LT-alpha, also known as TNF-beta), LT-beta (found in complex heterotrimer LT-alpha2-beta), OPG, FasL, CD27L, CD30L, CD40L, 4-1BBL, DcR3, OX40L, TNF-gamma (International Publication No. WO 96/14328), AIM-I (International Publication No. WO 97/33899), AIM-II (International Publication No. WO 97/34911), APRIL (J. Exp. Med. 188(6):1185-1190), endokine-alpha (International Publication No. WO 98/07880), TR6 (International Publication No. WO 98/30694), OPG, and BLyS (International Publication No. WO 98/18921, OX40, and nerve growth factor (NGF), and soluble forms of Fas, CD30, CD27, CD40 and 4-IBB, TR2 (International Publication No. WO 96/34095), DR3 (International Publication No. WO 97/33904), DR4 (International Publication No. WO 98/32856), TR5 (International Publication No. WO 98/30693), TR6 (International Publication No. WO 98/30694), TR7 (International Publication No. WO 98/41629), TRANK, TR9 (International Publication No. WO 98/56892), TR10 (International Publication No. WO 98/54202), 312C2 (International Publication No. WO 98/06842), and TR12.

[0777] In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with TNF-family receptors (e.g., TACI and BCMA). In preferred embodiments the TNF-family receptors are soluble. In other preferred embodiments the TNF-family receptors are fused to the FC region of an immunoglobulin molecule (e.g,

amino acid residues 1-154 of TACI (GenBank accession number AAC51790), or 1-48 of BCMA (GenBank accession number NP\_001183) fused to the Fc region of an IgG molecule.

[0778] In a preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with CD40 ligand (CD40L), a soluble form of CD40L (e.g., AVREND™), biologically active fragments, variants, or derivatives of CD40L, anti-CD40L antibodies (e.g., agonistic or antagonistic antibodies), and/or anti-CD40 antibodies (e.g., agonistic or antagonistic antibodies).

[0779] In an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered alone or in combination with an anti-angiogenic agent(s). Anti-angiogenic agents that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, Angiostatin (Entremed, Rockville, MD), Tropomin-1 (Boston Life Sciences, Boston, MA), anti-Invasive Factor, retinoic acid and derivatives thereof, paclitaxel (Taxol), Suramin, Tissue Inhibitor of Metalloproteinase-1, Tissue Inhibitor of Metalloproteinase-2, VEGI, Plasminogen Activator Inhibitor-1, Plasminogen Activator Inhibitor-2, and various forms of the lighter "d group" transition metals.

[0780] Lighter "d group" transition metals include, for example, vanadium, molybdenum, tungsten, titanium, niobium, and tantalum species. Such transition metal species may form transition metal complexes. Suitable complexes of the above-mentioned transition metal species include oxo transition metal complexes.

[0781] Representative examples of vanadium complexes include oxo vanadium complexes such as vanadate and vanadyl complexes. Suitable vanadate complexes include metavanadate and orthovanadate complexes such as, for example, ammonium metavanadate, sodium metavanadate, and sodium orthovanadate. Suitable vanadyl complexes include, for example, vanadyl acetylacetone and vanadyl sulfate including vanadyl sulfate hydrates such as vanadyl sulfate mono- and trihydrates.

[0782] Representative examples of tungsten and molybdenum complexes also include oxo complexes. Suitable oxo tungsten complexes include tungstate and tungsten oxide complexes. Suitable tungstate complexes include ammonium tungstate, calcium tungstate, sodium tungstate dihydrate, and tungstic acid. Suitable tungsten oxides include tungsten (IV) oxide and tungsten (VI) oxide. Suitable oxo molybdenum complexes include molybdate, molybdenum oxide, and molybdenyl complexes. Suitable molybdate

complexes include ammonium molybdate and its hydrates, sodium molybdate and its hydrates, and potassium molybdate and its hydrates. Suitable molybdenum oxides include molybdenum (VI) oxide, molybdenum (VI) oxide, and molybdic acid. Suitable molybdenyl complexes include, for example, molybdenyl acetylacetone. Other suitable tungsten and molybdenum complexes include hydroxo derivatives derived from, for example, glycerol, tartaric acid, and sugars.

[0783] A wide variety of other anti-angiogenic factors may also be utilized within the context of the present invention. Representative examples include, but are not limited to, platelet factor 4; protamine sulphate; sulphated chitin derivatives (prepared from queen crab shells), (Murata et al., *Cancer Res.* 51:22-26, 1991); Sulphated Polysaccharide Peptidoglycan Complex (SP-PG) (the function of this compound may be enhanced by the presence of steroids such as estrogen, and tamoxifen citrate); Staurosporine; modulators of matrix metabolism, including for example, proline analogs, cishydroxyproline, d,L-3,4-dehydroproline, Thiaproline, alpha,alpha-dipyridyl, aminopropionitrile fumarate; 4-propyl-5-(4-pyridinyl)-2(3H)-oxazolone; Methotrexate; Mitoxantrone; Heparin; Interferons; 2 Macroglobulin-serum; ChIMP-3 (Pavloff et al., *J. Bio. Chem.* 267:17321-17326, 1992); Chymostatin (Tomkinson et al., *Biochem J.* 286:475-480, 1992); Cyclodextrin Tetradecasulfate; Eponemycin; Camptothecin; Fumagillin (Ingber et al., *Nature* 348:555-557, 1990); Gold Sodium Thiomalate ("GST"; Matsubara and Ziff, *J. Clin. Invest.* 79:1440-1446, 1987); anticollagenase-serum; alpha2-antiplasmin (Holmes et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 262(4):1659-1664, 1987); Bisantrene (National Cancer Institute); Lobenzarit disodium (N-(2)-carboxyphenyl-4- chloroanthronilic acid disodium or "CCA"; (Takeuchi et al., *Agents Actions* 36:312-316, 1992); and metalloproteinase inhibitors such as BB94.

[0784] Additional anti-angiogenic factors that may also be utilized within the context of the present invention include Thalidomide, (Celgene, Warren, NJ); Angiostatic steroid; AGM-1470 (H. Brem and J. Folkman *J Pediatr. Surg.* 28:445-51 (1993)); an integrin alpha v beta 3 antagonist (C. Storgard et al., *J Clin. Invest.* 103:47-54 (1999)); carboxynaminolmidazole; Carboxyamidotriazole (CAI) (National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD); Conbretastatin A-4 (CA4P) (OXiGENE, Boston, MA); Squalamine (Magainin Pharmaceuticals, Plymouth Meeting, PA); TNP-470, (Tap Pharmaceuticals, Deerfield, IL); ZD-0101 AstraZeneca (London, UK); APRA (CT2584); Benefin,

Byrostatin-1 (SC339555); CGP-41251 (PKC 412); CM101; Dexrazoxane (ICRF187); DMXAA; Endostatin; Flavopridiol; Genestein; GTE; ImmTher; Iressa (ZD1839); Octreotide (Somatostatin); Panretin; Penacillamine; Photopoint; PI-88; Prinomastat (AG-3340) Purlytin; Suradista (FCE26644); Tamoxifen (Nolvadex); Tazarotene; Tetraethylomolybdate; Xeloda (Capecitabine); and 5-Fluorouracil.

[0785] Anti-angiogenic agents that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention may work through a variety of mechanisms including, but not limited to, inhibiting proteolysis of the extracellular matrix, blocking the function of endothelial cell-extracellular matrix adhesion molecules, by antagonizing the function of angiogenesis inducers such as growth factors, and inhibiting integrin receptors expressed on proliferating endothelial cells. Examples of anti-angiogenic inhibitors that interfere with extracellular matrix proteolysis and which may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, AG-3340 (Agouron, La Jolla, CA), BAY-12-9566 (Bayer, West Haven , CT), BMS-275291 (Bristol Myers Squibb, Princeton, NJ), CGS-27032A (Novartis, East Hanover, NJ), Marimastat (British Biotech, Oxford, UK), and Metastat (Aeterna, St-Foy, Quebec). Examples of anti-angiogenic inhibitors that act by blocking the function of endothelial cell-extracellular matrix adhesion molecules and which may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, EMD-121974 (Merck KgaA Darmstadt, Germany) and Vitaxin (Ixsys, La Jolla, CA/MedImmune, Gaithersburg, MD). Examples of anti-angiogenic agents that act by directly antagonizing or inhibiting angiogenesis inducers and which may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, Angiozyme (Ribozyme, Boulder, CO), Anti-VEGF antibody (Genentech, S. San Francisco, CA), PTK-787/ZK-225846 (Novartis, Basel, Switzerland), SU-101 (Sugen, S. San Francisco, CA), SU-5416 (Sugen/ Pharmacia Upjohn, Bridgewater, NJ), and SU-6668 (Sugen). Other anti-angiogenic agents act to indirectly inhibit angiogenesis. Examples of indirect inhibitors of angiogenesis which may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, IM-862 (Cytran, Kirkland, WA), Interferon-alpha, IL-12 (Roche, Nutley, NJ), and Pentosan polysulfate (Georgetown University, Washington, DC).

[0786] In particular embodiments, the use of compositions of the invention in combination with anti-angiogenic agents is contemplated for the treatment, prevention, and/or amelioration of an autoimmune disease, such as for example, an autoimmune disease described herein.

[0787] In a particular embodiment, the use of compositions of the invention in combination with anti-angiogenic agents is contemplated for the treatment, prevention, and/or amelioration of arthritis. In a more particular embodiment, the use of compositions of the invention in combination with anti-angiogenic agents is contemplated for the treatment, prevention, and/or amelioration of rheumatoid arthritis.

[0788] In particular embodiments, the use of compositions of the invention in combination with anti-angiogenic agents is contemplated for the treatment, prevention, and/or amelioration of strokes.

[0789] In another embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an anticoagulant. Anticoagulants that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, heparin, warfarin, and aspirin. In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with heparin and/or warfarin. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with warfarin. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with warfarin and aspirin. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with heparin. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with heparin and aspirin.

[0790] In another embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an agent that suppresses the production of anticardiolipin antibodies. In specific embodiments, the polynucleotides of the invention are administered in combination with an agent that blocks and/or reduces the ability of anticardiolipin antibodies to bind phospholipid-binding plasma protein beta 2-glycoprotein I (b2GPI).

[0791] In certain embodiments, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with antiretroviral agents, nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, and/or protease inhibitors. Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, RETROVIR™ (zidovudine/AZT), VIDEX™

(didanosine/ddI), HIVID™ (zalcitabine/ddC), ZERIT™ (stavudine/d4T), EPIVIR™ (lamivudine/3TC), and COMBIVIR™ (zidovudine/lamivudine). Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, VIRAMUNE™ (nevirapine), RESRIPTOR™ (delavirdine), and SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz). Protease inhibitors that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, CRIXIVAN™ (indinavir), NORVIR™ (ritonavir), INVIRASE™ (saquinavir), and VIRACEPT™ (nelfinavir). In a specific embodiment, antiretroviral agents, nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, and/or protease inhibitors may be used in any combination with compositions of the invention to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose AIDS and/or to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose HIV infection.

[0792] In certain embodiments, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with antiretroviral agents, nucleoside/nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs), non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs), and/or protease inhibitors (PIs). NRTIs that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, RETROVIR™ (zidovudine/AZT), VIDEX™ (didanosine/ddI), HIVID™ (zalcitabine/ddC), ZERIT™ (stavudine/d4T), EPIVIR™ (lamivudine/3TC), and COMBIVIR™ (zidovudine/lamivudine). NNRTIs that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, VIRAMUNE™ (nevirapine), RESRIPTOR™ (delavirdine), and SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz). Protease inhibitors that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, CRIXIVAN™ (indinavir), NORVIR™ (ritonavir), INVIRASE™ (saquinavir), and VIRACEPT™ (nelfinavir). In a specific embodiment, antiretroviral agents, nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, and/or protease inhibitors may be used in any combination with compositions of the invention to treat AIDS and/or to prevent or treat HIV infection.

[0793] Additional NRTIs include LODENOSINE™ (F-ddA; an acid-stable adenosine NRTI; Triangle/Abbott; COVIRACIL™ (emtricitabine/FTC; structurally related to

lamivudine (3TC) but with 3- to 10-fold greater activity *in vitro*; Triangle/Abbott); dOTC (BCH-10652, also structurally related to lamivudine but retains activity against a substantial proportion of lamivudine-resistant isolates; Biochem Pharma); Adefovir (refused approval for anti-HIV therapy by FDA; Gilead Sciences); PREVEON® (Adefovir Dipivoxil, the active prodrug of adefovir; its active form is PMEA-pp); TENOFOVIR™ (bis-POC PMPA, a PMPA prodrug; Gilead); DAPD/DXG (active metabolite of DAPD; Triangle/Abbott); D-D4FC (related to 3TC, with activity against AZT/3TC-resistant virus); GW420867X (Glaxo Wellcome); ZIAGEN™ (abacavir/159U89; Glaxo Wellcome Inc.); CS-87 (3'azido-2',3'-dideoxyuridine; WO 99/66936); and S-acyl-2-thioethyl (SATE)-bearing prodrug forms of β-L-FD4C and β-L-FddC (WO 98/17281).

[0794] Additional NNRTIs include COACTINON™ (Emivirine/MKC-442, potent NNRTI of the HEPT class; Triangle/Abbott); CAPRAVIRINE™ (AG-1549/S-1153, a next generation NNRTI with activity against viruses containing the K103N mutation; Agouron); PNU-142721 (has 20- to 50-fold greater activity than its predecessor delavirdine and is active against K103N mutants; Pharmacia & Upjohn); DPC-961 and DPC-963 (second-generation derivatives of efavirenz, designed to be active against viruses with the K103N mutation; DuPont); GW-420867X (has 25-fold greater activity than HBY097 and is active against K103N mutants; Glaxo Wellcome); CALANOLIDE A (naturally occurring agent from the latex tree; active against viruses containing either or both the Y181C and K103N mutations); and Propolis (WO 99/49830).

[0795] Additional protease inhibitors include LOPINAVIR™ (ABT378/r; Abbott Laboratories); BMS-232632 (an azapeptide; Bristol-Myers Squibb); TIPRANAVIR™ (PNU-140690, a non-peptic dihydropyrrone; Pharmacia & Upjohn); PD-178390 (a nonpeptidic dihydropyrrone; Parke-Davis); BMS 232632 (an azapeptide; Bristol-Myers Squibb); L-756,423 (an indinavir analog; Merck); DMP-450 (a cyclic urea compound; Avid & DuPont); AG-1776 (a peptidomimetic with *in vitro* activity against protease inhibitor-resistant viruses; Agouron); VX-175/GW-433908 (phosphate prodrug of amprenavir; Vertex & Glaxo Wellcome); CGP61755 (Ciba); and AGENERASE™ (amprenavir; Glaxo Wellcome Inc.).

[0796] Additional antiretroviral agents include fusion inhibitors/gp41 binders. Fusion inhibitors/gp41 binders include T-20 (a peptide from residues 643-678 of the HIV gp41 transmembrane protein ectodomain which binds to gp41 in its resting state and prevents transformation to the fusogenic state; Trimeris) and T-1249 (a second-generation fusion inhibitor; Trimeris).

[0797] Additional antiretroviral agents include fusion inhibitors/chemokine receptor antagonists. Fusion inhibitors/chemokine receptor antagonists include CXCR4 antagonists such as AMD 3100 (a bicyclam), SDF-1 and its analogs, and ALX40-4C (a cationic peptide), T22 (an 18 amino acid peptide; Trimeris) and the T22 analogs T134 and T140; CCR5 antagonists such as RANTES (9-68), AOP-RANTES , NNY-RANTES, and TAK-779; and CCR5/CXCR4 antagonists such as NSC 651016 (a distamycin analog). Also included are CCR2B, CCR3, and CCR6 antagonists. Chemokine receptor agonists such as RANTES, SDF-1, MIP-1 $\alpha$ , MIP-1 $\beta$ , etc., may also inhibit fusion.

[0798] Additional antiretroviral agents include integrase inhibitors. Integrase inhibitors include dicaffeoylquinic (DFQA) acids; L-chicoric acid (a dicaffeoyltartaric (DCTA) acid); quinalizarin (QLC) and related anthraquinones; ZINTEVIR™ (AR 177, an oligonucleotide that probably acts at cell surface rather than being a true integrase inhibitor; Arondex); and naphthols such as those disclosed in WO 98/50347.

[0799] Additional antiretroviral agents include hydroxyurea-like compounds such as BCX-34 (a purine nucleoside phosphorylase inhibitor; Biocryst); ribonucleotide reductase inhibitors such as DIDOX™ (Molecules for Health); inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase (IMPDH) inhibitors sucha as VX-497 (Vertex); and myvopholic acids such as CellCept (mycophenolate mofetil; Roche).

[0800] Additional antiretroviral agents include inhibitors of viral integrase, inhibitors of viral genome nuclear translocation such as arylene bis(methylketone) compounds; inhibitors of HIV entry such as AOP-RANTES, NNY-RANTES, RANTES-IgG fusion protein, soluble complexes of RANTES and glycosaminoglycans (GAG), and AMD-3100; nucleocapsid zinc finger inhibitors such as dithiane compounds; targets of HIV Tat and Rev; and pharmacoenhancers such as ABT-378.

[0801] Other antiretroviral therapies and adjunct therapies include cytokines and lymphokines such as MIP-1 $\alpha$ , MIP-1 $\beta$ , SDF-1 $\alpha$ , IL-2, PROLEUKIN™ (aldesleukin/L2-7001; Chiron), IL-4, IL-10, IL-12, and IL-13; interferons such as IFN- $\alpha$ 2a; antagonists of

TNFs, NF $\kappa$ B, GM-CSF, M-CSF, and IL-10; agents that modulate immune activation such as cyclosporin and prednisone; vaccines such as Remune<sup>TM</sup> (HIV Immunogen), APL 400-003 (Apollon), recombinant gp120 and fragments, bivalent (B/E) recombinant envelope glycoprotein, rgp120CM235, MN rgp120, SF-2 rgp120, gp120/soluble CD4 complex, Delta JR-FL protein, branched synthetic peptide derived from discontinuous gp120 C3/C4 domain, fusion-competent immunogens, and Gag, Pol, Nef, and Tat vaccines; gene-based therapies such as genetic suppressor elements (GSEs; WO 98/54366), and intrakines (genetically modified CC chemokines targetted to the ER to block surface expression of newly synthesized CCR5 (Yang *et al.*, *PNAS* 94:11567-72 (1997); Chen *et al.*, *Nat. Med.* 3:1110-16 (1997)); antibodies such as the anti-CXCR4 antibody 12G5, the anti-CCR5 antibodies 2D7, 5C7, PA8, PA9, PA10, PA11, PA12, and PA14, the anti-CD4 antibodies Q4120 and RPA-T4, the anti-CCR3 antibody 7B11, the anti-gp120 antibodies 17b, 48d, 447-52D, 257-D, 268-D and 50.1, anti-Tat antibodies, anti-TNF- $\alpha$  antibodies, and monoclonal antibody 33A; aryl hydrocarbon (AH) receptor agonists and antagonists such as TCDD, 3,3',4,4',5-pentachlorobiphenyl, 3,3',4,4'-tetrachlorobiphenyl, and  $\alpha$ -naphthoflavone (WO 98/30213); and antioxidants such as  $\gamma$ -L-glutamyl-L-cysteine ethyl ester ( $\gamma$ -GCE; WO 99/56764).

[0802] In other embodiments, compositions of the invention may be administered in combination with anti-opportunistic infection agents. Anti-opportunistic agents that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, TRIMETHOPRIM-SULFAMETHOXAZOLE<sup>TM</sup>, DAPSONE<sup>TM</sup>, PENTAMIDINE<sup>TM</sup>, ATOVAQUONE<sup>TM</sup>, ISONIAZID<sup>TM</sup>, RIFAMPIN<sup>TM</sup>, PYRAZINAMIDE<sup>TM</sup>, ETHAMBUTOL<sup>TM</sup>, RIFABUTIN<sup>TM</sup>, CLARITHROMYCIN<sup>TM</sup>, AZITHROMYCIN<sup>TM</sup>, GANCICLOVIR<sup>TM</sup>, FOSCARNET<sup>TM</sup>, CIDOFOVIR<sup>TM</sup>, FLUCONAZOLE<sup>TM</sup>, ITRACONAZOLE<sup>TM</sup>, KETOCONAZOLE<sup>TM</sup>, ACYCLOVIR<sup>TM</sup>, FAMCICOLVIR<sup>TM</sup>, PYRIMETHAMINE<sup>TM</sup>, LEUCOVORIN<sup>TM</sup>, NEUPOGEN<sup>TM</sup> (filgrastim/G-CSF), and LEUKINE<sup>TM</sup> (sargramostim/GM-CSF). In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with TRIMETHOPRIM-SULFAMETHOXAZOLE<sup>TM</sup>, DAPSONE<sup>TM</sup>, PENTAMIDINE<sup>TM</sup>, and/or ATOVAQUONE<sup>TM</sup> to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia infection. In another specific embodiment,

compositions of the invention are used in any combination with ISONIAZID™, RIFAMPIN™, PYRAZINAMIDE™, and/or ETHAMBUTOL™ to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic *Mycobacterium avium* complex infection. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with RIFABUTIN™, CLARITHROMYCIN™, and/or AZITHROMYCIN™ to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with GANCICLOVIR™, FOSCARNET™, and/or CIDOFOVIR™ to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic cytomegalovirus infection. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with FLUCONAZOLE™, ITRACONAZOLE™, and/or KETOCONAZOLE™ to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic fungal infection. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with ACYCLOVIR™ and/or FAMCICOLVIR™ to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic herpes simplex virus type I and/or type II infection. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with PYRIMETHAMINE™ and/or LEUCOVORIN™ to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic *Toxoplasma gondii* infection. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are used in any combination with LEUCOVORIN™ and/or NEUPOGEN™ to prophylactically treat, prevent, and/or diagnose an opportunistic bacterial infection.

[0803] In a further embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an antiviral agent. Antiviral agents that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, acyclovir, ribavirin, amantadine, and remantidine.

[0804] In a further embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an antibiotic agent. Antibiotic agents that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, amoxicillin, aminoglycosides, beta-lactam (glycopeptide), beta-lactamases, Clindamycin, chloramphenicol, cephalosporins, ciprofloxacin, ciprofloxacin, erythromycin, fluoroquinolones, macrolides, metronidazole, penicillins, quinolones, rifampin,

streptomycin, sulfonamide, tetracyclines, trimethoprim, trimethoprim-sulfamthoxazole, and vancomycin.

[0805] Conventional nonspecific immunosuppressive agents, that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, steroids, cyclosporine, cyclosporine analogs cyclophosphamide, cyclophosphamide IV, methylprednisolone, prednisolone, azathioprine, FK-506, 15-deoxyspergualin, and other immunosuppressive agents that act by suppressing the function of responding T cells. Other immunosuppressive agents, that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, prednisolone, methotrexate, thalidomide, methoxsalen, rapamycin, leflunomide, mizoribine (BREDININTM), brequinar, deoxyspergualin, and azaspirane (SKF 105685).

[0806] In specific embodiments, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with immunosuppressants. Immunosuppressant preparations that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, ORTHOCLONE OKT® 3 (muromonab-CD3), SANDIMMUNE™, NEORAL™, SANGDYA™ (cyclosporine), PROGRAF® (FK506, tacrolimus), CELLCEPT® (mycophenolate motefil, of which the active metabolite is mycophenolic acid), IMURAN™ (azathioprine), glucorticosteroids, adrenocortical steroids such as DELTASONETM (prednisone) and HYDELTRASOL™ (prednisolone), FOLEX™ and MEXATE™ (methotrexate), OXSORALEN-ULTRA™ (methoxsalen) and RAPAMUNE™ (sirolimus). In a specific embodiment, immunosuppressants may be used to prevent rejection of organ or bone marrow transplantation.

[0807] In a preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with steroid therapy. Steroids that may be administered in combination with the compositions of the invention, include, but are not limited to, oral corticosteroids, prednisone, and methylprednisolone (e.g., IV methylprednisolone). In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with prednisone. In a further specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with prednisone and an immunosuppressive agent. Immunosuppressive agents that may be administered with the compositions of the invention and prednisone are those described herein, and include, but are not limited to,

azathioprine, cylophosphamide, and cyclophosphamide IV. In another specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with methylprednisolone. In a further specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with methylprednisolone and an immunosuppressive agent. Immunosuppressive agents that may be administered with the compositions of the invention and methylprednisolone are those described herein, and include, but are not limited to, azathioprine, cylophosphamide, and cyclophosphamide IV.

[0808] In a preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an antimalarial. Antimalarials that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, hydroxychloroquine, chloroquine, and/or quinacrine.

[0809] In a preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an NSAID.

[0810] In a nonexclusive embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with one, two, three, four, five, ten, or more of the following drugs: NRD-101 (Hoechst Marion Roussel), diclofenac (Dimethaid), oxaprozin potassium (Monsanto), mecasermin (Chiron), T-614 (Toyama), pemetrexed disodium (Eli Lilly), atreleuton (Abbott), valdecoxib (Monsanto), eltenac (Byk Gulden), campath, AGM-1470 (Takeda), CDP-571 (Celltech Chiroscience), CM-101 (CarboMed), ML-3000 (Merckle), CB-2431 (KS Biomedix), CBF-BS2 (KS Biomedix), IL-1Ra gene therapy (Valentis), JTE-522 (Japan Tobacco), paclitaxel (Angiotech), DW-166HC (Dong Wha), darbufelone mesylate (Warner-Lambert), soluble TNF receptor 1 (synergen; Amgen), IPR-6001 (Institute for Pharmaceutical Research), trocade (Hoffman-La Roche), EF-5 (Scotia Pharmaceuticals), BIIL-284 (Boehringer Ingelheim), BIIF-1149 (Boehringer Ingelheim), LeukoVax (Inflammatics), MK-663 (Merck), ST-1482 (Sigma-Tau), and butixocort propionate (WarnerLambert).

[0811] In one embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with one or more of the following drugs: infliximab (also known as Remicade<sup>TM</sup> Centocor, Inc.), Trocade (Roche, RO-32-3555), Leflunomide (also known as Arava<sup>TM</sup> from Hoechst Marion Roussel), Kineret<sup>TM</sup> (an IL-1 Receptor antagonist also known as Anakinra from Amgen, Inc.), SCIO-469 (p38 kinase inhibitor from Scios, Inc),

and/or ASLERA™ (prasterone, dehydroepiandrosterone, GL701) from Genelabs Technologies Inc.

[0812] In a preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with one, two, three, four, five or more of the following drugs: methotrexate, sulfasalazine, sodium aurothiomalate, auranofin, cyclosporine, penicillamine, azathioprine, an antimalarial drug (e.g., as described herein), cyclophosphamide, chlorambucil, gold, ENBREL™ (Etanercept), anti-TNF antibody, LJP 394 (La Jolla Pharmaceutical Company, San Diego, California), and prednisolone.

[0813] In a more preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an antimalarial, methotrexate, anti-TNF antibody, ENBREL™ and/or suflasalazine. In one embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with methotrexate. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with anti-TNF antibody. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with methotrexate and anti-TNF antibody. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with suflasalazine. In another specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with methotrexate, anti-TNF antibody, and suflasalazine. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with ENBREL™. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with ENBREL™ and methotrexate. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with ENBREL™, methotrexate and suflasalazine. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with ENBREL™, and suflasalazine. In other embodiments, one or more antimalarials is combined with one of the above-recited combinations. In a specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an antimalarial (e.g., hydroxychloroquine), ENBREL™, methotrexate and suflasalazine. In another specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an antimalarial (e.g., hydroxychloroquine), sulfasalazine, anti-TNF antibody, and methotrexate.

[0814] In an additional embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered alone or in combination with one or more intravenous immune globulin preparations.

Intravenous immune globulin preparations that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but not limited to, GAMMAR™, IVEEGAM™, SANDOGLOBULIN™, GAMMAGARD S/D™, and GAMIMUNE™. In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with intravenous immune globulin preparations in transplantation therapy (e.g., bone marrow transplant).

[0815] In an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered alone or in combination with an anti-inflammatory agent. Anti-inflammatory agents that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, glucocorticoids and the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories, aminoarylcarboxylic acid derivatives, arylacetic acid derivatives, arylbutyric acid derivatives, arylcarboxylic acids, arylpropionic acid derivatives, pyrazoles, pyrazolones, salicylic acid derivatives, thiazinecarboxamides, e-acetamidocaproic acid, S-adenosylmethionine, 3-amino-4-hydroxybutyric acid, amixetrine, bendazac, benzylamine, bucolome, disenpiramide, ditazol, emorfazole, guaiazulene, nabumetone, nimesulide, orgotein, oxaceprol, paranyline, perisoxal, pifoxime, proquazone, proxazole, and tenidap.

[0816] In another embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with a chemotherapeutic agent. Chemotherapeutic agents that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, antibiotic derivatives (e.g., doxorubicin, bleomycin, daunorubicin, and dactinomycin); antiestrogens (e.g., tamoxifen); antimetabolites (e.g., fluorouracil, 5-FU, methotrexate, floxuridine, interferon alpha-2b, glutamic acid, plicamycin, mercaptopurine, and 6-thioguanine); cytotoxic agents (e.g., carmustine, BCNU, lomustine, CCNU, cytosine arabinoside, cyclophosphamide, estramustine, hydroxyurea, procarbazine, mitomycin, busulfan, cis-platin, and vincristine sulfate); hormones (e.g., medroxyprogesterone, estramustine phosphate sodium, ethinyl estradiol, estradiol, megestrol acetate, methyltestosterone, diethylstilbestrol diphosphate, chlorotriamisene, and testolactone); nitrogen mustard derivatives (e.g., mephalen, chorambucil, mechlorethamine (nitrogen mustard) and thiotapec); steroids and combinations (e.g., bethamethasone sodium phosphate); and others (e.g., dacarbazine, asparaginase, mitotane, vincristine sulfate, vinblastine sulfate, and etoposide).

[0817] In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, and prednisone) or combination of one or more of the components of CHOP. In one embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with anti-CD20 antibodies, human monoclonal anti-CD20 antibodies. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with anti-CD20 antibodies and CHOP, or anti-CD20 antibodies and any combination of one or more of the components of CHOP, particularly cyclophosphamide and/or prednisone. In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with Rituximab. In a further embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered with Rituximab and CHOP, or Rituximab and any combination of one or more of the components of CHOP, particularly cyclophosphamide and/or prednisone. In a specific embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered in combination with tositumomab (anti-CD20 antibody from Coulter Pharmaceuticals, San Francisco, CA). In a further embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered with tositumomab and CHOP, or tositumomab and any combination of one or more of the components of CHOP, particularly cyclophosphamide and/or prednisone. Tositumomab may optionally be associated with <sup>131</sup>I. The anti-CD20 antibodies may optionally be associated with radioisotopes, toxins or cytotoxic prodrugs.

[0818] In another specific embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination Zevalin™. In a further embodiment, compositions of the invention are administered with Zevalin™ and CHOP, or Zevalin™ and any combination of one or more of the components of CHOP, particularly cyclophosphamide and/or prednisone. Zevalin™ may be associated with one or more radisotopes. Particularly preferred isotopes are <sup>90</sup>Y and <sup>111</sup>In.

[0819] In an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with cytokines. Cytokines that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, GM-CSF, G-CSF, IL2, IL3, IL4, IL5, IL6, IL7, IL10, IL12, IL13, IL15, anti-CD40, CD40L, IFN-alpha, IFN-beta, IFN-gamma, TNF-alpha, and TNF-beta. In another embodiment, compositions of the invention may be administered with any interleukin, including, but not limited to, IL-1alpha, IL-1beta, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-11, IL-12, IL-

13, IL-14, IL-15, IL-16, IL-17, IL-18, IL-19, IL-20, IL-21, and IL-22. In preferred embodiments, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with IL4 and IL10. Both IL4 and IL10 have been observed by the inventors to enhance BLyS mediated B cell proliferation.

[0820] In vitro, IFN gamma and IL-10 have each been observed by the inventors to enhance cell surface expression of BLyS in monocytes and macrophages (macrophages were obtained by culturing primary monocytes with 20ng/mL of M-CSF for 12-15 days), whereas IL-4 treatment decreased cell surface expression of BLyS in monocytes and macrophages. IL-4 administered with IL-10 resulted in a complete inhibition of the IL-10 induced cell surface expression of BLyS. IL-4 administered with IFN-gamma resulted in increased cell-surface expression of BLyS. Treatment of macrophages with IFN-gamma and IL-10 resulted in a 3 fold increase of soluble (active) BLyS released into the culture medium compared to untreated macrophages.

[0821] In an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered with a chemokine. In another embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered with chemokine beta-8, chemokine beta-1, and/or macrophage inflammatory protein-4. In a preferred embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered with chemokine beta-8.

[0822] In an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with an IL-4 antagonist. IL-4 antagonists that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to: soluble IL-4 receptor polypeptides, multimeric forms of soluble IL-4 receptor polypeptides; anti-IL-4 receptor antibodies that bind the IL-4 receptor without transducing the biological signal elicited by IL-4, anti-IL4 antibodies that block binding of IL-4 to one or more IL-4 receptors, and muteins of IL-4 that bind IL-4 receptors but do not transduce the biological signal elicited by IL-4. Preferably, the antibodies employed according to this method are monoclonal antibodies (including antibody fragments, such as, for example, those described herein).

[0823] In an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with hematopoietic growth factors. Hematopoietic growth factors that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are

not limited to, LEUKINE™ (SARGRAMOSTIM™) and NEUPOGEN™ (FILGRASTIM™).

[0824] In an additional embodiment, the compositions of the invention are administered in combination with fibroblast growth factors. Fibroblast growth factors that may be administered with the compositions of the invention include, but are not limited to, FGF-1, FGF-2, FGF-3, FGF-4, FGF-5, FGF-6, FGF-7, FGF-8, FGF-9, FGF-10, FGF-11, FGF-12, FGF-13, FGF-14, and FGF-15.

[0825] Additionally, the compositions of the invention may be administered alone or in combination with other therapeutic regimens, including but not limited to, radiation therapy. Such combinatorial therapy may be administered sequentially and/or concomitantly.

#### ***AGONISTS AND ANTAGONISTS - ASSAYS AND MOLECULES***

[0826] The invention also provides a method of screening compounds to identify those which enhance or block the action of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention on cells, such as their interaction with TNF ligand-binding molecules such as receptor molecules. An agonist is a compound which increases the natural biological functions of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention or which functions in a manner similar to one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention while antagonists decrease or eliminate such functions.

[0827] In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for identifying a receptor protein or other ligand-binding protein which binds specifically to one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. For example, a cellular compartment, such as a membrane or a preparation thereof, may be prepared from a cell that expresses a molecule that binds one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. The preparation is incubated with one or more labeled heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and complexes of such complexes of the invention bound to the receptor or other binding protein are isolated and characterized according to routine methods known in the art. Alternatively, the one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may be bound to a solid support so that binding

molecules solubilized from cells are bound to the column and then eluted and characterized according to routine methods.

[0828] In the assay of the invention for agonists or antagonists, a cellular compartment, such as a membrane or a preparation thereof, may be prepared from a cell that expresses a molecule that binds one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention such as a molecule of a signaling or regulatory pathway modulated by said heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. The preparation is incubated with one or more labeled heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention in the absence or the presence of a candidate molecule which may be an agonist or antagonist. The ability of the candidate molecule to bind the binding molecule is reflected in decreased binding of the labeled ligand. Molecules which bind gratuitously, i.e., without inducing the effects of the ligand on binding the ligand and/or ligand-binding molecule, are most likely to be good antagonists. Molecules that bind well and elicit effects that are the same as or closely related to one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention are agonists.

[0829] Effects of potential agonists and antagonists may be measured, for instance, by determining activity of a second messenger system following interaction of the candidate molecule with a cell or appropriate cell preparation, and comparing the effect with that of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention or molecules that elicit the same effects as one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. Second messenger systems that may be useful in this regard include but are not limited to AMP guanylate cyclase, ion channel or phosphoinositide hydrolysis second messenger systems.

[0830] Another example of an assay for antagonists of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention is a competitive assay that combines one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and a potential antagonist with membrane-bound receptor molecules or recombinant receptor molecules under appropriate conditions for a competitive inhibition assay. The heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention can be labeled, such as by radioactivity, such that the number of complexes bound to a receptor molecule can be determined accurately to assess the effectiveness of the potential antagonist.

[0831] Potential antagonists include small organic molecules, peptides, polypeptides (e.g., IL-13), and antibodies that bind to one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention and thereby inhibit or extinguish its activity. Potential antagonists also may be small organic molecules, a peptide, a polypeptide such as a closely related protein or antibody that binds the same sites on a binding molecule, such as a receptor molecule, without inducing activities normally induced by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, thereby preventing the action of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention by excluding one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention from binding.

[0832] Other potential antagonists include antisense molecules. Antisense technology can be used to control gene expression through antisense DNA or RNA or through triple-helix formation. Antisense techniques are discussed, for example, in Okano, J. Neurochem. 56: 560 (1991); "Oligodeoxynucleotides as Antisense Inhibitors of Gene Expression, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL (1988). Antisense technology can be used to control gene expression through antisense DNA or RNA, or through triple-helix formation. Antisense techniques are discussed for example, in Okano, J., Neurochem. 56:560 (1991); Oligodeoxynucleotides as Antisense Inhibitors of Gene Expression, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL (1988). Triple helix formation is discussed in, for instance Lee et al., Nucleic Acids Research 6: 3073 (1979); Cooney et al., Science 241: 456 (1988); and Dervan et al., Science 251: 1360 (1991). The methods are based on binding of a polynucleotide to a complementary DNA or RNA. For example, the 5' coding portion of a polynucleotide that encodes the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of the present invention may be used to design an antisense RNA oligonucleotide of from about 10 to 40 base pairs in length. A DNA oligonucleotide is designed to be complementary to a region of the gene involved in transcription thereby preventing transcription and the production of a TNF ligand comprising one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. The antisense RNA oligonucleotide hybridizes to the mRNA *in vivo* and blocks translation of the mRNA molecule into a TNF ligand polypeptide. The oligonucleotides described above can also be delivered to cells such that the antisense RNA or DNA may be expressed *in vivo* to inhibit production of a TNF ligand.

[0833] In one embodiment, the antisense nucleic acid of the invention is produced intracellularly by transcription from an exogenous sequence. For example, a vector or a

portion thereof, is transcribed, producing an antisense nucleic acid (RNA) of the invention. Such a vector would contain a sequence encoding the antisense nucleic acid. Such a vector can remain episomal or become chromosomally integrated, as long as it can be transcribed to produce the desired antisense RNA. Such vectors can be constructed by recombinant DNA technology methods standard in the art. Vectors can be plasmid, viral, or others known in the art, used for replication and expression in vertebrate cells. Expression of the sequence encoding a TNF ligand, or fragments thereof, can be by any promoter known in the art to act in vertebrate, preferably human cells. Such promoters can be inducible or constitutive. Such promoters include, but are not limited to, the SV40 early promoter region (Bernoist and Chambon, *Nature* 29:304-310 (1981), the promoter contained in the 3' long terminal repeat of Rous sarcoma virus (Yamamoto et al., *Cell* 22:787-797 (1980), the herpes thymidine promoter (Wagner et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 78:1441-1445 (1981), the regulatory sequences of the metallothionein gene (Brinster, et al., *Nature* 296:39-42 (1982)), etc.

[0834] The antisense nucleic acids of the invention comprise a sequence complementary to at least a portion of an RNA transcript of a TNF ligand gene. However, absolute complementarity, although preferred, is not required. A sequence "complementary to at least a portion of an RNA," referred to herein, means a sequence having sufficient complementarity to be able to hybridize with the RNA, forming a stable duplex; in the case of double stranded TNF ligand antisense nucleic acids, a single strand of the duplex DNA may thus be tested, or triplex formation may be assayed. The ability to hybridize will depend on both the degree of complementarity and the length of the antisense nucleic acid. Generally, the larger the hybridizing nucleic acid, the more base mismatches with a TNF ligand RNA it may contain and still form a stable duplex (or triplex as the case may be). One skilled in the art can ascertain a tolerable degree of mismatch by use of standard procedures to determine the melting point of the hybridized complex.

[0835] Oligonucleotides that are complementary to the 5' end of the message, e.g., the 5' untranslated sequence up to and including the AUG initiation codon, should work most efficiently at inhibiting translation. However, sequences complementary to the 3' untranslated sequences of mRNAs have been shown to be effective at inhibiting translation of mRNAs as well. See generally, Wagner, R., 1994, *Nature* 372:333-335.

Thus, oligonucleotides complementary to either the 5'- or 3'- non-translated, non-coding regions of a TNF ligand, could be used in an antisense approach to inhibit translation of endogenous TNF ligand mRNA. Oligonucleotides complementary to the 5' untranslated region of the mRNA should include the complement of the AUG start codon. Antisense oligonucleotides complementary to mRNA coding regions are less efficient inhibitors of translation but could be used in accordance with the invention. Whether designed to hybridize to the 5'-, 3'- or coding region of TNF ligand mRNA, antisense nucleic acids should be at least six nucleotides in length, and are preferably oligonucleotides ranging from 6 to about 50 nucleotides in length. In specific aspects the oligonucleotide is at least 10 nucleotides, at least 17 nucleotides, at least 25 nucleotides or at least 50 nucleotides.

[0836] The polynucleotides of the invention can be DNA or RNA or chimeric mixtures or derivatives or modified versions thereof, single-stranded or double-stranded. The oligonucleotide can be modified at the base moiety, sugar moiety, or phosphate backbone, for example, to improve stability of the molecule, hybridization, etc. The oligonucleotide may include other appended groups such as peptides (e.g., for targeting host cell receptors *in vivo*), or agents facilitating transport across the cell membrane (see, e.g., Letsinger et al., 1989, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 86:6553-6556; Lemaitre et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 84:648-652 (1987); PCT Publication No. WO88/09810, published December 15, 1988) or the blood-brain barrier (see, e.g., PCT Publication No. WO89/10134, published April 25, 1988), hybridization-triggered cleavage agents. (See, e.g., Krol et al., BioTechniques 6:958-976 (1988)) or intercalating agents. (See, e.g., Zon, Pharm. Res. 5:539-549 (1988)). To this end, the oligonucleotide may be conjugated to another molecule, e.g., a peptide, hybridization triggered cross-linking agent, transport agent, hybridization-triggered cleavage agent, etc.

[0837] The antisense oligonucleotide may comprise at least one modified base moiety which is selected from the group including, but not limited to, 5-fluorouracil, 5-bromouracil, 5-chlorouracil, 5-iodouracil, hypoxanthine, xantine, 4-acetylcytosine, 5-(carboxyhydroxymethyl) uracil, 5-carboxymethylaminomethyl-2-thiouridine, 5-carboxymethylaminomethyluracil, dihydrouracil, beta-D-galactosylqueosine, inosine, N6-isopentenyladenine, 1-methylguanine, 1-methylinosine, 2,2-dimethylguanine, 2-methyladenine, 2-methylguanine, 3-methylcytosine, 5-methylcytosine, N6-adenine, 7-methylguanine, 5-methylaminomethyluracil, 5-methoxyaminomethyl-2-thiouracil, beta-D-

mannosylqueosine, 5-methoxycarboxymethyluracil, 5-methoxyuracil, 2-methylthio-N6-isopentenyladenine, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), wybutoxosine, pseudouracil, queosine, 2-thiocytosine, 5-methyl-2-thiouracil, 2-thiouracil, 4-thiouracil, 5-methyluracil, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid methylester, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), 5-methyl-2-thiouracil, 3-(3-amino-3-N-2-carboxypropyl) uracil, (acp3)w, and 2,6-diaminopurine.

[0838] The antisense oligonucleotide may also comprise at least one modified sugar moiety selected from the group including, but not limited to, arabinose, 2-fluoroarabinose, xylulose, and hexose.

[0839] In yet another embodiment, the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified phosphate backbone selected from the group including, but not limited to, a phosphorothioate, a phosphorodithioate, a phosphoramidothioate, a phosphoramidate, a phosphordiamidate, a methylphosphonate, an alkyl phosphotriester, and a formacetal or analog thereof.

[0840] In yet another embodiment, the antisense oligonucleotide is an alpha-anomeric oligonucleotide. An alpha-anomeric oligonucleotide forms specific double-stranded hybrids with complementary RNA in which, contrary to the usual beta-units, the strands run parallel to each other (Gautier et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 15:6625-6641 (1987)). The oligonucleotide is a 2-O-methylribonucleotide (Inoue et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 15:6131-6148 (1987)), or a chimeric RNA-DNA analogue (Inoue et al., FEBS Lett. 215:327-330 (1997)).

[0841] Polynucleotides of the invention may be synthesized by standard methods known in the art, e.g. by use of an automated DNA synthesizer (such as are commercially available from Biosearch, Applied Biosystems, etc.). As examples, phosphorothioate oligonucleotides may be synthesized by the method of Stein et al. (Nucl. Acids Res. 16:3209 (1988)), methylphosphonate oligonucleotides can be prepared by use of controlled pore glass polymer supports (Sarin et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 85:7448-7451 (1988)), etc.

[0842] While antisense nucleotides complementary to a TNF ligand coding region sequence could be used, those complementary to the transcribed untranslated region are most preferred.

[0843] Potential antagonists according to the invention also include catalytic RNA, or a ribozyme (See, e.g., PCT International Publication WO 90/11364, published October 4,

1990; Sarver et al, *Science* 247:1222-1225 (1990). While ribozymes that cleave mRNA at site specific recognition sequences can be used to destroy TNF ligand mRNAs, the use of hammerhead ribozymes is preferred. Hammerhead ribozymes cleave mRNAs at locations dictated by flanking regions that form complementary base pairs with the target mRNA. The sole requirement is that the target mRNA have the following sequence of two bases: 5'-UG-3'. The construction and production of hammerhead ribozymes is well known in the art and is described more fully in Haseloff and Gerlach, *Nature* 334:585-591 (1988). There are numerous potential hammerhead ribozyme cleavage sites within the nucleotide sequence of known TNF ligands. Preferably, the ribozyme is engineered so that the cleavage recognition site is located near the 5' end of the TNF ligand mRNA; i.e., to increase efficiency and minimize the intracellular accumulation of non-functional mRNA transcripts.

[0844] As in the antisense approach, the ribozymes of the invention can be composed of modified oligonucleotides (e.g. for improved stability, targeting, etc.) and should be delivered to cells which express one or more TNF ligands *in vivo*. DNA constructs encoding the ribozyme may be introduced into the cell in the same manner as described above for the introduction of antisense encoding DNA. A preferred method of delivery involves using a DNA construct "encoding" the ribozyme under the control of a strong constitutive promoter, such as, for example, pol III or pol II promoter, so that transfected cells will produce sufficient quantities of the ribozyme to destroy endogenous TNF ligand messages and inhibit translation. Since ribozymes unlike antisense molecules, are catalytic, a lower intracellular concentration is required for efficiency.

[0845] Endogenous gene expression can also be reduced by inactivating or "knocking out" the TNF ligand gene and/or its promoter using targeted homologous recombination. (E.g., see Smithies et al., *Nature* 317:230-234 (1985); Thomas & Capecchi, *Cell* 51:503-512 (1987); Thompson et al., *Cell* 5:313-321 (1989); each of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety). For example, a mutant, non-functional polynucleotide of the invention (or a completely unrelated DNA sequence) flanked by DNA homologous to the endogenous polynucleotide sequence (either the coding regions or regulatory regions of the gene) can be used, with or without a selectable marker and/or a negative selectable marker, to transfect cells that express polypeptides of the invention *in vivo*. In another embodiment, techniques known in the art are used to generate knockouts in cells that

contain, but do not express the gene of interest. Insertion of the DNA construct, via targeted homologous recombination, results in inactivation of the targeted gene. Such approaches are particularly suited in research and agricultural fields where modifications to embryonic stem cells can be used to generate animal offspring with an inactive targeted gene (e.g., see Thomas & Capecchi 1987 and Thompson 1989, *supra*). However this approach can be routinely adapted for use in humans provided the recombinant DNA constructs are directly administered or targeted to the required site *in vivo* using appropriate viral vectors that will be apparent to those of skill in the art. The contents of each of the documents recited in this paragraph is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0846] In other embodiments, antagonists according to the present invention include soluble forms of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. Such soluble forms of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, which may be naturally occurring or synthetic, antagonize signaling mediated by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention by competing with native heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention for binding to receptors (e.g., DR5 (See, International Publication No. WO 98/41629), TR10 (See, International Publication No. WO 98/54202), 312C2 (See, International Publication No. WO 98/06842), and TR11, TR11SV1, and TR11SV2 (See, U.S. Application Serial No. 09/176,200)), and/or by forming a multimer that may or may not be capable of binding the receptor, but which is incapable of inducing signal transduction. Preferably, these antagonists inhibit stimulation of lymphocyte (e.g., B-cell) proliferation, differentiation, and/or activation. Antagonists of the present invention also include antibodies specific for TNF-family ligands (e.g., CD30) and one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention.

[0847] By a "TNF-family ligand" is intended naturally occurring, recombinant, and synthetic ligands that are capable of binding to a member of the TNF receptor family and inducing and/or blocking the ligand/receptor signaling pathway. Members of the TNF ligand family are described in Table 2, and include, but are not limited to, TNF-alpha, lymphotxin-alpha (LT-alpha, also known as TNF-beta), LT-beta (found in complex heterotrimer LT-alpha2-beta), FasL, CD40L, (TNF-gamma (International Publication No. WO 96/14328), AIM-I (International Publication No. WO 97/33899), AIM-II

(International Publication No. WO 97/34911), APRIL (J. Exp. Med. 188(6):1185-1190), endokine-alpha (International Publication No. WO 98/07880), BLyS (International Publication No. WO 98/18921), CD27L, CD30L, 4-1BBL, OX40L, CD27, CD30, 4-1BB, OX40, and nerve growth factor (NGF).

[0848] Antagonists of the present invention also include antibodies specific for one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. Antibodies according to the present invention may be prepared by any of a variety of standard methods using one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention as immunogens.

[0849] Polyclonal and monoclonal antibody agonists or antagonists according to the present invention can be raised according to the methods disclosed in Tartaglia and Goeddel, *J. Biol. Chem.* 267(7):4304-4307(1992); Tartaglia et al., *Cell* 73:213-216 (1993)), and PCT Application WO 94/09137 and are preferably specific to (i.e., bind uniquely to) one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. The term "antibody" (Ab) or "monoclonal antibody" (mAb) as used herein is meant to include intact molecules as well as fragments thereof (such as, for example, Fab and F(ab') fragments) which are capable of binding an antigen. Fab, Fab' and F(ab') fragments lack the Fc fragment intact antibody, clear more rapidly from the circulation, and may have less non-specific tissue binding of an intact antibody (Wahl et al., *J. Nucl. Med.*, 24:316-325 (1983)).

[0850] In a preferred method, antibodies according to the present invention are mAbs. Such mAbs can be prepared using hybridoma technology (Kohler and Millstein, *Nature* 256:495-497 (1975) and U.S. Patent No. 4,376,110; Harlow et al., *Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1988; *Monoclonal Antibodies and Hybridomas: A New Dimension in Biological Analyses*, Plenum Press, New York, NY, 1980; Campbell, "Monoclonal Antibody Technology," In: *Laboratory Techniques in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*, Volume 13 (Burdon et al., eds.), Elsevier, Amsterdam (1984)).

[0851] Proteins and other compounds which bind one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention are also candidate agonists and antagonists according to the present invention. Such binding compounds can be "captured" using the yeast two-hybrid system (Fields and Song, *Nature* 340:245-246 (1989)). A modified version of the yeast two- hybrid system has been described by Roger Brent and his

colleagues (Gyuris, *Cell* 75:791-803 (1993); Zervos et al., *Cell* 72:223-232 (1993)). Such compounds are good candidate agonists and antagonists of the present invention.

[0852] For example, using the two-hybrid assay described above, the extracellular or intracellular domain of one or more polypeptide components of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, or any portion thereof, may be used to identify cellular proteins which interact with one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention *in vivo*. Such an assay may also be used to identify ligands with potential agonistic or antagonistic activity of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. This screening assay has previously been used to identify protein which interact with the cytoplasmic domain of the murine TNF-RII and led to the identification of two receptor associated proteins. Rothe et al., *Cell* 78:681 (1994). Such proteins and amino acid sequences which bind to the cytoplasmic domain of the TNF-family receptors are good candidate agonist and antagonist of the present invention.

[0853] Other screening techniques include the use of cells which express the polypeptide of the present invention (for example, transfected CHO cells) in a system which measures extracellular pH changes caused by receptor activation, for example, as described in *Science*, 246:181-296 (1989). In another example, potential agonists or antagonists may be contacted with a cell which expresses the polypeptide of the present invention and a second messenger response, e.g., signal transduction may be measured to determine whether the potential antagonist or agonist is effective.

[0854] Agonists according to the present invention include naturally occurring and synthetic compounds such as, for example, TNF family ligand peptide fragments, transforming growth factor, neurotransmitters (such as glutamate, dopamine, *N*-methyl-D-aspartate), tumor suppressors (p53), cytolytic T cells and antimetabolites. Preferred agonists include chemotherapeutic drugs such as, for example, cisplatin, doxorubicin, bleomycin, cytosine arabinoside, nitrogen mustard, methotrexate and vincristine. Others include ethanol and  $\beta$ -amyloid peptide. (*Science* 267:1457-1458 (1995)).

[0855] Preferred agonists are fragments of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention which stimulate lymphocyte (e.g., B cell) proliferation, differentiation and/or activation. Further preferred agonists include polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies raised against one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide

complexes of the invention, or a fragment thereof. Such agonist antibodies raised against a TNF-family receptor are disclosed in Tartaglia et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 88:9292-9296 (1991); and Tartaglia et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 267:4304- 4307(1992). See, also, PCT Application WO 94/09137.

[0856] In an additional embodiment, immunoregulatory molecules such as, for example, IL2, IL3, IL4, IL5, IL6, IL7, IL10, IL12, IL13, IL15, anti-CD40, CD40L, IFN-gamma and TNF-alpha, may be used as agonists of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention which stimulate lymphocyte (e.g., B cell) proliferation, differentiation and/or activation. In a specific embodiment, IL4 and/or IL10 are used to enhance proliferation of B cells mediated by one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention.

[0857] In further embodiments of the invention, cells that are genetically engineered to express the polypeptides of the invention, or alternatively, that are genetically engineered not to express the polypeptides of the invention (e.g., knockouts) are administered to a patient *in vivo*. Such cells may be obtained from the patient (i.e., animal, including human) or an MHC compatible donor and can include, but are not limited to fibroblasts, bone marrow cells, blood cells (e.g., lymphocytes), adipocytes, muscle cells, endothelial cells etc. The cells are genetically engineered *in vitro* using recombinant DNA techniques to introduce the coding sequence of polypeptides of the invention into the cells, or alternatively, to disrupt the coding sequence and/or endogenous regulatory sequence associated with the polypeptides of the invention, e.g., by transduction (using viral vectors, and preferably vectors that integrate the transgene into the cell genome) or transfection procedures, including, but not limited to, the use of plasmids, cosmids, YACs, naked DNA, electroporation, liposomes, etc. The coding sequence of the polypeptides of the invention can be placed under the control of a strong constitutive or inducible promoter or promoter/enhancer to achieve expression, and preferably secretion, of the polypeptides of the invention. The engineered cells which express and preferably secrete the polypeptides of the invention can be introduced into the patient systemically, e.g., in the circulation, or intraperitoneally.

[0858] Alternatively, the cells can be incorporated into a matrix and implanted in the body, e.g., genetically engineered fibroblasts can be implanted as part of a skin graft; genetically engineered endothelial cells can be implanted as part of a lymphatic or

vascular graft. (See, for example, Anderson et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,399,349; and Mulligan & Wilson, U.S. Patent No. 5,460,959 each of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety).

[0859] When the cells to be administered are non-autologous or non-MHC compatible cells, they can be administered using well known techniques which prevent the development of a host immune response against the introduced cells. For example, the cells may be introduced in an encapsulated form which, while allowing for an exchange of components with the immediate extracellular environment, does not allow the introduced cells to be recognized by the host immune system.

[0860] In yet another embodiment of the invention, the activity of one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention can be reduced using a "dominant negative." To this end, constructs which encode defective heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention, such as, for example, mutants lacking all or a portion of the TNF-conserved domain, can be used in gene therapy approaches to diminish the activity of one or more functional heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention on appropriate target cells. For example, nucleotide sequences that direct host cell expression of TNF ligand polypeptides in which all or a portion of the TNF-conserved domains are altered or missing can be introduced into monocytic cells or other cells or tissues (either by in vivo or ex vivo gene therapy methods described herein or otherwise known in the art). Alternatively, targeted homologous recombination can be utilized to introduce such deletions or mutations into the subject's endogenous TNF ligand genes in monocytes. The engineered cells will express non-functional TNF ligand polypeptides (i.e., a ligand (e.g., multimer) that may be capable of binding, but which is incapable of inducing signal transduction), which form non-functional heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention.

### ***CHROMOSOME ASSAYS***

[0861] The nucleic acid molecules encoding polypeptides comprising one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention are also valuable for chromosome identification. The sequence is specifically targeted to and can hybridize with a particular location on an individual human chromosome. Moreover, there is a

current need for identifying particular sites on the chromosome. Few chromosome marking reagents based on actual sequence data (repeat polymorphisms) are presently available for marking chromosomal location. The mapping of DNAs to chromosomes according to the present invention is an important first step in correlating those sequences with genes associated with disease.

[0862] In certain preferred embodiments in this regard, the cDNA and/or polynucleotides herein disclosed are used to clone genomic DNA of a TNF ligand gene. This can be accomplished using a variety of well known techniques and libraries, which generally are available commercially. The genomic DNA then is used for *in situ* chromosome mapping using well-known techniques for this purpose.

[0863] In addition, in some cases, sequences can be mapped to chromosomes by preparing PCR primers (preferably 15-25 bp) from the cDNA. Computer analysis of the 3' untranslated region of the gene is used to rapidly select primers that do not span more than one exon in the genomic DNA, thus complicating the amplification process. These primers are then used for PCR screening of somatic cell hybrids containing individual human chromosomes. Fluorescence *in situ* hybridization ("FISH") of a cDNA clone to a metaphase chromosomal spread can be used to provide a precise chromosomal location in one step. This technique can be used with probes from the cDNA as short as 50 or 60 bp. For a review of this technique, see Verma *et al.*, *Human Chromosomes: A Manual Of Basic Techniques*, Pergamon Press, New York (1988).

[0864] Once a sequence has been mapped to a precise chromosomal location, the physical position of the sequence on the chromosome can be correlated with genetic map data. Such data are found, for example, in V. McKusick, *Mendelian Inheritance In Man*, available on-line through Johns Hopkins University, Welch Medical Library. The relationship between genes and diseases that have been mapped to the same chromosomal region are then identified through linkage analysis (coinheritance of physically adjacent genes).

[0865] Next, it is necessary to determine the differences in the cDNA or genomic sequence between affected and unaffected individuals. If a mutation is observed in some or all of the affected individuals but not in any normal individuals, then the mutation is likely to be the causative agent of the disease.

[0866] With current resolution of physical mapping and genetic mapping techniques, a cDNA precisely localized to a chromosomal region associated with the disease could be one of between 50 and 500 potential causative genes. (This assumes 1 megabase mapping resolution and one gene per 20 kb).

[0867] Utilizing the techniques described above, the chromosomal location of TNF ligand genes encoding polypeptides comprising one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention may be determined with high confidence using a combination of somatic cell hybrids and radiation hybrids.

### ***EXAMPLES***

[0868] Having generally described the invention, the same will be more readily understood by reference to the following examples, which are provided by way of illustration and are not intended as limiting. The following examples are set forth referring specifically to BLyS or BLyS-SV polynucleotides encoding BLyS or BLyS-SV polypeptides respectively, each of which may be contained in one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. Each example may also be practiced to generate and/or examine other polynucleotides and/or polypeptides which are contained in one or more heteromultimeric polypeptide complexes of the invention. One of ordinary skill in the art would easily be able to direct the following examples to other known TNF ligands.

#### ***EXAMPLE 1A: Expression and Purification of "His-tagged" BLyS in E. coli***

[0869] The bacterial expression vector pQE9 (pD10) is used for bacterial expression in this example. (QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*). pQE9 encodes ampicillin antibiotic resistance ("Ampr") and contains a bacterial origin of replication ("ori"), an IPTG inducible promoter, a ribosome binding site ("RBS"), six codons encoding histidine residues that allow affinity purification using nickel-nitrolo-tri-acetic acid ("Ni-NTA") affinity resin sold by QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*, and suitable single restriction enzyme cleavage sites. These elements are arranged such that an inserted DNA fragment encoding a polypeptide

expresses that polypeptide with the six His residues (i.e., a "6 X His tag") covalently linked to the amino terminus of that polypeptide.

[0870] The DNA sequence encoding the desired portion of the BLyS protein comprising the extracellular domain sequence is amplified from the deposited cDNA clone using PCR oligonucleotide primers which anneal to the amino terminal sequences of the desired portion of the protein and to sequences in the deposited construct 3' to the cDNA coding sequence. Additional nucleotides containing restriction sites to facilitate cloning in the pQE9 vector are added to the 5' and 3' primer sequences, respectively.

[0871] For cloning the extracellular domain of the protein, the 5' primer has the sequence 5'-GTG GGA TCC AGC CTC CGG GCA GAG CTG-3' (SEQ ID NO:10) containing the underlined *Bam* HI restriction site followed by 18 nucleotides of the amino terminal coding sequence of the extracellular domain of the sequence in Figures 1A and 1B. One of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate, of course, that the point in the protein coding sequence where the 5' primer begins may be varied to amplify a DNA segment encoding any desired portion of the complete Neutrokinin a protein shorter or longer than the extracellular domain of the form. The 3' primer has the sequence 5'-GTG AAG CTT TTA TTA CAG CAG TTT CAA TGC ACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:11) containing the underlined *Hind* III restriction site followed by two stop codons and 18 nucleotides complementary to the 3' end of the coding sequence of the DNA sequence in Figures 1A and 1B.

[0872] The amplified DNA fragment and the vector pQE9 are digested with *Bam* HI and *Hind* III and the digested DNAs are then ligated together. Insertion of the DNA into the restricted pQE9 vector places the protein coding region downstream from the IPTG-inducible promoter and in-frame with an initiating AUG and the six histidine codons.

[0873] The ligation mixture is transformed into competent *E. coli* cells using standard procedures such as those described in Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning: a Laboratory Manual*, 2nd Ed.; Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY (1989). *E. coli* strain M15/rep4, containing multiple copies of the plasmid pREP4, which expresses the lac repressor and confers kanamycin resistance ("Kan<sup>R</sup>"), is used in carrying

out the illustrative example described herein. This strain, which is only one of many that are suitable for expressing protein, is available commercially from QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*. Transformants are identified by their ability to grow on LB plates in the presence of ampicillin and kanamycin. Plasmid DNA is isolated from resistant colonies and the identity of the cloned DNA confirmed by restriction analysis, PCR and DNA sequencing. Clones containing the desired constructs are grown overnight ("O/N") in liquid culture in LB media supplemented with both ampicillin (100 µg/ml) and kanamycin (25 µg/ml). The O/N culture is used to inoculate a large culture, at a dilution of approximately 1:25 to 1:250. The cells are grown to an optical density at 600 nm ("OD600") of between 0.4 and 0.6. Isopropyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside ("IPTG") is then added to a final concentration of 1 mM to induce transcription from the lac repressor sensitive promoter, by inactivating the lacI repressor. Cells subsequently are incubated further for 3 to 4 hours. Cells then are harvested by centrifugation.

[0874] The cells are then stirred for 3-4 hours at 4° C in 6M guanidine-HCl, pH 8. The cell debris is removed by centrifugation, and the supernatant containing the is loaded on to a nickel-nitrilo-tri-acetic acid ("Ni-NTA") affinity resin column (available from QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*). Proteins with a 6 x His tag bind to the Ni-NTA resin with high affinity and can be purified in a simple one-step procedure (for details see: The QIAexpressionist, 1995, QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*). Briefly the supernatant is loaded on to the column in 6 M guanidine-HCl, pH 8, the column is first washed with 10 volumes of 6 M guanidine-HCl, pH 8, then washed with 10 volumes of 6 M guanidine-HCl pH 6, and finally the BLyS and/or BLySSV polypeptide is eluted with 6 M guanidine-HCl, pH 5.

[0875] The purified protein is then renatured by dialyzing it against phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) or 50 mM Na-acetate, pH 6 buffer plus 200 mM NaCl. Alternatively, the protein can be successfully refolded while immobilized on the Ni-NTA column. The recommended conditions are as follows: renature using a linear 6M-1M urea gradient in 500 mM NaCl, 20% glycerol, 20 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.4, containing protease inhibitors. The renaturation should be performed over a period of 1.5 hours or more. After renaturation the proteins can be eluted by the addition of 250 mM immidazole.

Immidazole is removed by a final dialyzing step against PBS or 50 mM sodium acetate pH 6 buffer plus 200 mM NaCl. The purified protein is stored at 4° C or frozen at -80° C.

***EXAMPLE 1B: Expression and Purification of BLyS in E. coli***

[0876] The bacterial expression vector pQE60 is used for bacterial expression in this example. (QIAGEN, Inc., 9259 Eton Avenue, Chatsworth, CA, 91311). pQE60 encodes ampicillin antibiotic resistance ("Ampr") and contains a bacterial origin of replication ("ori"), an IPTG inducible promoter, a ribosome binding site ("RBS"), six codons encoding histidine residues that allow affinity purification using nickel-nitrilo-tri-acetic acid ("Ni-NTA") affinity resin sold by QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*, and suitable single restriction enzyme cleavage sites. These elements are arranged such that a DNA fragment encoding a polypeptide may be inserted in such a way as to produce that polypeptide with the six His residues (i.e., a "6 X His tag") covalently linked to the carboxyl terminus of that polypeptide. However, in this example, the polypeptide coding sequence is inserted such that translation of the six His codons is prevented and, therefore, the polypeptide is produced with no 6 X His tag.

[0877] The DNA sequence encoding the desired portion of the protein comprising the extracellular domain sequence is amplified from the deposited cDNA clone using PCR oligonucleotide primers which anneal to the amino terminal sequences of the desired portion of the protein and to sequences in the deposited construct 3' to the cDNA coding sequence. Additional nucleotides containing restriction sites to facilitate cloning in the pQE60 vector are added to the 5' and 3' sequences, respectively.

[0878] For cloning the extracellular domain of the protein, the 5' primer has the sequence 5'-GTG TCA TGA GCC TCC GGG CAG AGC TG-3' (SEQ ID NO:12) containing the underlined *Bsp* HI restriction site followed by 17 nucleotides of the amino terminal coding sequence of the extracellular domain of the sequence in Figures 1A and 1B. One of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate, of course, that the point in the protein coding sequence where the 5' primer begins may be varied to amplify a desired portion of the complete protein shorter or longer than the extracellular domain of the form. The 3' primer has the sequence 5'-GTG AAG CTT TTA CAG CAG TTT CAA TGC

ACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:13) containing the underlined *Hind* III restriction site followed by two stop codons and 18 nucleotides complementary to the 3' end of the coding sequence in the DNA sequence in Figures 1A and 1B.

[0879] The amplified DNA fragments and the vector pQE60 are digested with *Bsp* HI and *Hind* III and the digested DNAs are then ligated together. Insertion of the DNA into the restricted pQE60 vector places the protein coding region including its associated stop codon downstream from the IPTG-inducible promoter and in-frame with an initiating AUG. The associated stop codon prevents translation of the six histidine codons downstream of the insertion point.

[0880] The ligation mixture is transformed into competent *E. coli* cells using standard procedures such as those described in Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning: a Laboratory Manual, 2nd Ed.*; Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY (1989). *E. coli* strain M15/rep4, containing multiple copies of the plasmid pREP4, which expresses the lac repressor and confers kanamycin resistance ("Kanr"), is used in carrying out the illustrative example described herein. This strain, which is only one of many that are suitable for expressing protein, is available commercially from QIAGEN, Inc., *supra*. Transformants are identified by their ability to grow on LB plates in the presence of ampicillin and kanamycin. Plasmid DNA is isolated from resistant colonies and the identity of the cloned DNA confirmed by restriction analysis, PCR and DNA sequencing.

[0881] One of ordinary skill in the art recognizes that any of a number of bacterial expression vectors may be useful in place of pQE9 and pQE60 in the expression protocols presented in this example. For example, the novel pHE4 series of bacterial expression vectors, in particular, the pHE4-5 vector may be used for bacterial expression in this example (ATCC Accession No. 209311; and variations thereof). The plasmid DNA designated pHE4-5/MPIFD23 in ATCC Deposit No. 209311 is vector plasmid DNA which contains an insert which encodes another ORF. The construct was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209, on September 30, 1997. Using the *Nde* I and *Asp* 718 restriction sites flanking the irrelevant MPIF ORF insert, one of ordinary skill in the art could easily use

current molecular biological techniques to replace the irrelevant ORF in the pHE4-5 vector with the BLyS ORF of the present invention.

[0882] The pHE4-5 bacterial expression vector includes a neomycin phosphotransferase gene for selection, an *E. coli* origin of replication, a T5 phage promoter sequence, two *lac* operator sequences, a Shine-Delgarno sequence, and the lactose operon repressor gene (*lacIq*). These elements are arranged such that an inserted DNA fragment encoding a polypeptide expresses that polypeptide with the six His residues (i.e., a "6 X His tag") covalently linked to the amino terminus of that polypeptide. The promoter and operator sequences of the pHE4-5 vector were made synthetically. Synthetic production of nucleic acid sequences is well known in the art (CLONETECH 95/96 Catalog, pages 215-216, CLONETECH, 1020 East Meadow Circle, Palo Alto, CA 94303).

[0883] Clones containing the desired BLyS constructs are grown overnight ("O/N") in liquid culture in LB media supplemented with both ampicillin (100 µg/ml) and kanamycin (25 µg/ml). The O/N culture is used to inoculate a large culture, at a dilution of approximately 1:25 to 1:250. The cells are grown to an optical density at 600 nm ("OD600") of between 0.4 and 0.6. isopropyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside ("IPTG") is then added to a final concentration of 1 mM to induce transcription from the lac repressor sensitive promoter, by inactivating the *lacI* repressor. Cells subsequently are incubated further for 3 to 4 hours. Cells then are harvested by centrifugation.

[0884] The cells are then stirred for 3-4 hours at 4 °C in 6M guanidine-HCl, pH 8. The cell debris is removed by centrifugation, and the supernatant containing the Neutrokinin a is dialyzed against 50 mM Na-acetate buffer pH 6, supplemented with 200 mM NaCl. Alternatively, the protein can be successfully refolded by dialyzing it against 500 mM NaCl, 20% glycerol, 25 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.4, containing protease inhibitors. After renaturation the protein can be purified by ion exchange, hydrophobic interaction and size exclusion chromatography. Alternatively, an affinity chromatography step such as an antibody column can be used to obtain pure protein. The purified protein is stored at 4 °C or frozen at -80° C.

[0885] In certain embodiments, it is preferred to generate expression constructs as detailed in this Example to mutate one or more of the three cysteine residues in the BLyS polypeptide sequence. The cysteine residues in the BLyS polypeptide sequence are located at positions 147, 232, and 245 as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 and at positions 213 and 226 of the BLyS polypeptide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:19 (there is no cysteine in the BLySSV polypeptide sequence which corresponds to Cys-147 in the BLyS polypeptide sequence because amino acid residues 143-160 of the BLyS polypeptide sequence are not present in the BLySSV polypeptide sequence).

***EXAMPLE 2: Cloning, Expression, and Purification of BLyS Protein in a Baculovirus Expression System***

[0886] In this illustrative example, the plasmid shuttle vector pA2GP is used to insert the cloned DNA encoding the extracellular domain of the protein, lacking its naturally associated intracellular and transmembrane sequences, into a baculovirus to express the extracellular domain of the BLyS protein, using a baculovirus leader and standard methods as described in Summers et al., *A Manual of Methods for Baculovirus Vectors and Insect Cell Culture Procedures*, Texas Agricultural Experimental Station Bulletin No. 1555 (1987). This expression vector contains the strong polyhedrin promoter of the *Autographa californica* nuclear polyhedrosis virus (AcMNPV) followed by the secretory signal peptide (leader) of the baculovirus gp67 protein and convenient restriction sites such as *Bam* HI, *Xba* I and *Asp* 718. The polyadenylation site of the simian virus 40 ("SV40") is used for efficient polyadenylation. For easy selection of recombinant virus, the plasmid contains the beta-galactosidase gene from *E. coli* under control of a weak Drosophila promoter in the same orientation, followed by the polyadenylation signal of the polyhedrin gene. The inserted genes are flanked on both sides by viral sequences for cell-mediated homologous recombination with wild-type viral DNA to generate viable virus that expresses the cloned polynucleotide.

[0887] Many other baculovirus vectors could be used in place of the vector above, such as pAc373, pVL941 and pAcIM1, as one skilled in the art would readily appreciate, as long as the construct provides appropriately located signals for transcription,

translation, secretion and the like, including a signal peptide and an in-frame AUG as required. Such vectors are described, for instance, in Luckow et al., *Virology* 170:31-39 (1989).

[0888] The cDNA sequence encoding an N-terminally deleted form of the extracellular domain of the BLyS protein in the deposited clone, lacking the AUG initiation codon, the naturally associated intracellular and transmembrane domain sequences, and amino acids Gln-73 through Leu-79 shown in Figures 1A and 1B (SEQ ID NO:2), is amplified using PCR oligonucleotide primers corresponding to the 5' and 3' sequences of the gene. The 5' primer has the sequence 5'-GTG GGA TCC CCG GGC AGA GCT GCA GGG C-3' (SEQ ID NO:14) containing the underlined *Bam* HI restriction enzyme site followed by 18 nucleotides of the sequence of the extracellular domain of the BLyS protein shown in Figures 1A and 1B, beginning with the indicated N-terminus of the extracellular domain of the protein. The 3' primer has the sequence 5'-GTG GGA TCC TTA TTA CAG CAG TTT CAA TGC ACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:15) containing the underlined *Bam* HI restriction site followed by two stop codons and 18 nucleotides complementary to the 3' coding sequence in Figures 1A and 1B.

[0889] In certain other embodiments, constructs designed to express the entire predicted extracellular domain of the BLyS (i.e., amino acid residues Gln-73 through Leu-285) are preferred. One of skill in the art would be able to use the polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences provided as SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2, respectively, to design polynucleotide primers to generate such a clone.

[0890] In a further preferred embodiment, a pA2GP expression construct encodes amino acid residues Leu-112 through Leu-285 of the BLyS polypeptide sequence shown as SEQ ID NO:2.

[0891] In another preferred embodiment, a pA2GP expression construct encodes amino acid residues Ser-78 through Leu-285 of the BLyS polypeptide sequence shown as SEQ ID NO:2.

[0892] The amplified fragment is isolated from a 1% agarose gel using a commercially available kit ("Geneclean," BIO 101 Inc., La Jolla, Ca.). The fragment then is digested with *Bam* HI and again is purified on a 1% agarose gel. This fragment is designated herein F1.

[0893] The plasmid is digested with the restriction enzymes *Bam* HI and optionally, can be dephosphorylated using calf intestinal phosphatase, using routine procedures known in the art. The DNA is then isolated from a 1% agarose gel using a commercially available kit ("Geneclean" BIO 101 Inc., La Jolla, Ca.). This vector DNA is designated herein "V1".

[0894] Fragment F1 and the dephosphorylated plasmid V1 are ligated together with T4 DNA ligase. *E. coli* HB101 or other suitable *E. coli* hosts such as XL-1 Blue (Statagene Cloning Systems, La Jolla, CA) cells are transformed with the ligation mixture and spread on culture plates. Bacteria are identified that contain the plasmid with the human gene by digesting DNA from individual colonies using *Bam* HI and then analyzing the digestion product by gel electrophoresis. The sequence of the cloned fragment is confirmed by DNA sequencing. This plasmid is designated herein pA2GP-BLyS.

[0895] Five micrograms of the plasmid pA2GP-BLyS is co-transfected with 1.0 microgram of a commercially available linearized baculovirus DNA ("BaculoGold™ baculovirus DNA", Pharmingen, San Diego, CA), using the lipofection method described by Felgner et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84: 7413-7417 (1987). One µg of BaculoGold™ virus DNA and 5 micrograms of the plasmid pA2GP BLyS are mixed in a sterile well of a microtiter plate containing 50 microliters of serum-free Grace's medium (Life Technologies Inc., Gaithersburg, MD). Afterwards, 10 microliters Lipofectin plus 90 microliters Grace's medium are added, mixed and incubated for 15 minutes at room temperature. Then the transfection mixture is added drop-wise to Sf9 insect cells (ATCC CRL 1711) seeded in a 35 mm tissue culture plate with 1 ml Grace's medium without serum. The plate is then incubated for 5 hours at 27 C. The transfection solution is then removed from the plate and 1 ml of Grace's insect medium supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum is added. Cultivation is then continued at 27 C for four days.

[0896] After four days the supernatant is collected and a plaque assay is performed, as described by Summers and Smith, *supra*. An agarose gel with "Blue Gal" (Life Technologies Inc., Rockville, Maryland) is used to allow easy identification and isolation of gal-expressing clones, which produce blue-stained plaques. (A detailed description of a "plaque assay" of this type can also be found in the user's guide for insect cell culture and

baculovirology distributed by Life Technologies Inc., Rockville, MD, page 9-10). After appropriate incubation, blue stained plaques are picked with the tip of a micropipettor (e.g., Eppendorf). The agar containing the recombinant viruses is then resuspended in a microcentrifuge tube containing 200 microliters of Grace's medium and the suspension containing the recombinant baculovirus is used to infect Sf9 cells seeded in 35 mm dishes. Four days later the supernatants of these culture dishes are harvested and then they are stored at 4 C. The recombinant virus is called V-BLyS.

[0897] To verify the expression of the BLyS gene Sf9 cells are grown in Grace's medium supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated FBS. The cells are infected with the recombinant baculovirus V-BLyS at a multiplicity of infection ("MOI") of about 2. If radiolabeled proteins are desired, 6 hours later the medium is removed and is replaced with SF900 II medium minus methionine and cysteine (available from Life Technologies Inc., Rockville, MD). After 42 hours, 5 microcuries of <sup>35</sup>S-methionine and 5 microcuries <sup>35</sup>S-cysteine (available from Amersham) are added. The cells are further incubated for 16 hours and then are harvested by centrifugation. The proteins in the supernatant as well as the intracellular proteins are analyzed by SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography (if radiolabeled).

[0898] Microsequencing of the amino acid sequence of the amino terminus of purified protein may be used to determine the amino terminal sequence of the extracellular domain of the protein and thus the cleavage point and length of the secretory signal peptide.

[0899] In a specific experimental example, recombinant BLyS was purified from baculovirus infected Sf9 cell supernatants as follows. The insect cells were grown in EXCEL401 medium (JRH Scientific) with 1 % (v/v) fetal bovine serum. At 92 hours post-infection, the harvested supernatant was clarified by centrifugation at 18,000 x g followed by 0.45 m depth filtration. A de-lipid filtration step might be also used to remove the lipid contaminants and in turn to improve initial capturing of the BLyS protein.

[0900] The supernatant was loaded on to a set of Poros HS-50/HQ-50 in tandem mode. As alternatives, Toyopearl QAE, Toyopearl Super Q (Tosohass), Q-Sepharose (Pharmacia) and equivalent resins might be used. This step is used as a negative purification step to remove strong anion binding contaminants. The HS/HQ flow through

material was adjusted to pH 7.5 with 1 M Tris-HCl pH 8, diluted with equal volume of 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8, and loaded onto a poros PI-20 or PI-50 column. The PI column was washed first with 4 column volumes of 75 mM sodium chloride in 50 mM Tris-HCl at pH 7.5, then eluted using 3 to 5 column volumes of a stepwise gradient of 300 mM, 750 mM, 1500 mM sodium chloride in 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5. BLyS protein appears as a 17 KD band on reduced SDS-PAGE and is present in the 0.75 M to 1.5M Sodium chloride fractions.

[0901] The PI fraction was further purified through a Sephadryl S100 HR (Pharmacia) size exclusion column equilibrated with 0.15 M sodium chloride, 50 mM sodium acetate at pH 6. The S200 fractions were mixed with sodium chloride to a final concentration of 3 M and loaded onto a Toyopearl Hexyl 650C (Tosohass) column. The Hexyl column was eluted with a linear gradient from 3 M to 0.05 M sodium chloride in 50 mM Sodium acetate pH 6 in 5 to 15 column volumes. The sodium chloride gradient can also be replaced by ammonium sulfate gradient of 1M to 0 M in 50 mM sodium acetate pH 6 in the Hexyl chromatographic step. Fractions containing purified BLyS as analyzed through SDS-PAGE were combined and dialyzed against a buffer containing 150 mM Sodium chloride, 50 mM Sodium acetate, pH 6.

[0902] The final purified BLyS protein expressed in a baculovirus system as explained herein has an N-terminus sequence which begins with amino acid residue Ala-134 of SEQ ID NO:2. RP-HPLC analysis shows a single peak of greater than 95% purity. Endotoxin level was below the detection limit in LAL assay.

[0903] In another example, recombinant BLyS was purified from baculovirus infected Sf9 cell supernatants containing 0.25% bovine serum as follows.

[0904] The Sf9 supernatant was harvested by centrifugation at 18,000 x g. The supernatant was then treated with 10 mM calcium chloride in slightly alkaline conditions for 10-15 minutes followed by centrifugation and then 0.22 micrometer depth filtration. The resulting Sf-9 cell supernatant was then diluted 2-fold and loaded on to a Poros PI-50 column (available from PE Biosystems). The column was equilibrated with 50 mM Tris (pH=7.4). The PI-50 column was washed with 1 CV of 50 mM Tris (pH=7.4) and then eluted with 1.5 M NaCl in 50 mM NaOAc (pH=6) over 3 CV. The PI fraction was loaded on to a Sephadryl S200 column equilibrated with 50 mM NaOAc (pH=6), 125 mM NaCl. The S200 fraction was mixed with salts to final concentrations of 0.7 M ammonium

sulfate and 0.6 M NaCl and loaded on to a Toyopearl Hexyl 650C column (available from Toso Haas) that had been equilibrated in a buffer containing 0.6 M NaCl, 0.7 M ammonium sulfate in 50 mM NaOAc (pH=6). The column was then washed with 2 CV of the same buffer. Recombinant BLyS was then eluted stepwise with 3 CV of 50 mM NaOAc (pH=6) followed by 2 CV of 20% ethanol wash. The recombinant BLyS protein was then eluted at the end of the ammonium sulfate (0.3 to 0 M salt) gradient. The appropriate fractions were pooled and dialyzed against a buffer containing 50 mM NaOAc (pH=6), and then passed through a Poros 50 HQ column. The HQ flow-through was diluted to 4 ms and loaded on to a Toyopearl DEAD 650M column and then eluted with 25 mM NaCitrate, 125 mM NaCl.

[0905] In another example, recombinant BLyS was expressed and purified using a baculoviral vector system in Sf<sup>+</sup> insect cells.

[0906] First, a polynucleotide encoding amino acid residues Ser-78 through Leu-285 of the BLyS polypeptide sequence shown in Figures 1A and 1B (which is exactly identical to amino acid residues Ser-78 through Leu-285 of the BLyS polypeptide sequence shown as SEQ ID NO:2) was subcloned into the baculovirus transfer construct PSC to generate a baculovirus expression plasmid. The pA2GP transfer vector, derived from pVL941, contains the gp67 signal peptide, a modified multiple cloning site, and the *lac Z* gene cloned downstream of the *Drosophila* heat-shock promoter for selection of blue plaques. Using the sequence of BLyS (SEQ ID NO:2) and the sequence of the pA2GP vector, a cloning strategy was designed for seamlessly fusing the PSC signal peptide coding sequence to the BLyS coding sequence at Ala-134 (SEQ ID NO:2 and Figures 1A and 1B) and inserting it into a PSC baculovirus transfer plasmid. The strategy involved the use of a two-stage polymerase chain reaction (PCR) procedure. First, primers were designed for amplifying the BLyS sequences. The 5' primer consisted of the sequence encoding Ala-134 and following residues (5'-GGT CGC CGT TTC TAA CGC GGC CGT TCA GGG TCC AGA AG-3'; SEQ ID NO:31), preceded by the sequence encoding the PSC signal peptide C-terminus. The 3' primer (5'-CTG GTT CGG CCC AAG GTA CCA AGC TTG TAC CTT AGA TCT TTT CTA GAT C-3'; SEQ ID NO:32) consisted of the reverse complement of the pA2GP vector sequence immediately downstream from the BLyS coding sequence, preceded by a *Kpn* I restriction endonuclease site and a spacer sequence (for increased cutting efficiency by *Kpn* I). PCR was performed with the pA2GP

containing BLyS plasmid template and primers O-1887 and O-1888, and the resulting PCR product was purified using standard techniques.

[0907] An additional PCR reaction was performed using the PSC baculovirus transfer plasmid pMGS12 as a template. The pMGS12 plasmid consists of the AcNPV EcoRI "I" fragment inserted into pUC8, with the polyhedrin coding sequences after the ATG start codon replaced with the PSC signal peptide and a polylinker site. The PCR reaction used pMGS12 as a template, a 5' primer (5'-CTG GTA GTT CTT CGG AGT GTG-3'; SEQ ID NO:33) which annealed in AcNPV ORF603 upstream of the unique *NgoM* IV and *EcoR* V sites, and a 3' primer (5'-CGC GTT AGA AAC GGC GAC C-3'; SEQ ID NO:34) which annealed to the 3' end of the sequence encoding the PSC signal peptide.

[0908] To generate a PCR product in which the PSC signal peptide was seamlessly fused to the Ala-134 of the BLyS coding sequence, the PCR product was combined with the PSC signal peptide-polyhedrin upstream region PCR product and subjected to an additional round of PCR. Because the 3' end of the PSC signal peptide PCR product (pMGS12 / O-959 / O-1044) overlapped the 5' end of the BLyS PCR product prepared with primers O-1887 / O-1888, the two PCR products were combined and overlap-extended by PCR using primers O-959 and O-1888.

[0909] The resulting overlap-extended PCR product containing the PSC signal peptide fused to the BLyS sequence subsequently was inserted into baculovirus transfer plasmid pMGS12. The PCR product was digested with *NgoM* IV and *Kpn* I, and the fragment was purified and ligated into *NgoM* IV-*Kpn* I-cut pMGS12. After transformation of competent *E. coli* DH5alpha cells with the ligation mix, colonies were picked and plasmid DNA mini-preps were prepared. Several positive clones from each ligation were identified by restriction digestion analysis of the plasmid DNA, and three clones (pAcC9669, pAcC9671, and pAcC9672) were selected for large scale plasmid purification. The resulting plasmid DNA was subjected to DNA sequence analysis to confirm and sequence the BLyS insert.

[0910] The following steps describe the recovery and purification process of recombinant BLyS from Sf+ insect cells. Unless stated otherwise, the process is conducted at 2-8 C.

[0911] *Recovery*

[0912] *Step 1. CaCl<sub>2</sub> Treatment*

[0913] Sf+ cell supernatant was harvested by centrifugation at 8,000 x g. Recovery buffer-1 (1M CaCl<sub>2</sub>) was added to the supernatant so that the final concentration of CaCl<sub>2</sub> was 10 mM. (In a further preferred embodiment, 1M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> is used in place of 1M CaCl<sub>2</sub>.) The pH of the solution was adjusted to 7.7 ± with Recovery buffer-2 (1M Tris pH 8 (± 0.2)). The solution was incubated for 15 minutes and then centrifuged at 8,000 x g.

[0914] *Purification*

[0915] *Step 1. Chromatography on Poros PI-50 Column*

[0916] Sf+ cell supernatant was loaded on to a Poros PI-50 column (PE Biosystem). The column was equilibrated in PI-1 buffer (50 mM Tris, 50 mM NaCl, pH 7.4 (± 0.2)). The PI-50 column was washed with 1-2 CV of PI-1 buffer and then eluted with PI-2 buffer (50 mM Na Citrate pH 6 (± 0.2)) over 3 CV linear gradient. The elution was monitored by ultraviolet (UV) absorbance at 280 nm. Fractions were collected across the eluate peak and analyzed by SDS page. Appropriate fractions were pooled.

[0917] *Step 2. Chromatography on Toyopearl Hexyl 650C Column*

[0918] The PI pool was mixed with salts to final concentrations of 0.7M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and loaded on to a Toyopearl Hexyl 650C (Toso Haas) column equilibrated in HIC-1 buffer (50 mM NaOAc, 0.6M NaCl, 0.7M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> pH 6 (± 0.2)). The column was then washed with 2 CV of HIC-1 buffer. Subsequently, recombinant BLyS was then eluted stepwise with 3-5 CV of HIC-2 buffer (50mM NaOAc pH 6.0 (± 0.2)) followed by a 2 CV 20% ethanol wash. The elution was monitored by UV absorbance at 280 nm and conductivity. Fractions were collected across the eluate peak and analyzed by SDS-PAGE. The appropriate fractions were then pooled.

[0919] *Step 3. Chromatography on SP sepharose FF*

[0920] The Hexyl fraction was dialyzed and adjusted to pH 4.5 with SP-1 buffer (50 mM sodium acetate pH 4.5 (± 0.2)), diluted to 4 ms and loaded through a SP sepharose (cation exchanger, Pharmacia) column equilibrated with SP-1 buffer (50 mM sodium acetate pH 4.5 (± 0.2)). Recombinant BLyS protein was then eluted from the SP column with SP-2 buffer (50 mM sodium acetate pH 5.5 (± 0.2)) at pH 5.5. The elution was then monitored by ultraviolet (UV) absorbance at 280 nm. Fractions were collected across the eluate peak and analyzed by SDS page. Appropriate fractions were pooled.

[0921] *Step 4. Dialysis of Recombinant BLyS*

[0922] The SP fractions were placed into a 6-8 kd cutoff membrane device and then dialyzed or diafiltered into Dialysis Buffer (10 mM sodium citrate, 140 mM sodium chloride pH 6 ( $\pm$  0.2)) overnight.

[0923] *Step 5. Filtration and Fill*

[0924] The protein concentration of the recombinant BLyS solution from Step 6 was determined by bicinchoninic acid (BCA) protein assay. Recombinant BLyS formulation was adjusted to the final protein concentration with the appropriate buffer and filtered under controlled conditions. The filtrate (bulk substance) was stored in suitable sterilized containers below -20 C.

[0925] In a specific embodiment, BLyS protein of the invention produced as described infra was adjusted to a final protein concentration of 1 to 5 mg/ml and buffered in 10 mM sodium citrate, 140 mM sodium chloride, pH = 6.0  $\pm$  (0.4) and stored at or below -20 C in Type 1 glass vials.

[0926] During chromatography runs, the processes are monitored by UV absorbance at 280 nm. When applicable, in-process chromatography intermediates are tested for conductivity, pH, and monitored by SDS and/or RP-HPLC.

[0927] Columns and purification equipment are cleaned and sanitized with 0.2 or 0.5 M NaOH followed by deionized water and then 0.1 or 0.5 M acetic acid. The column and purification equipment are rinsed with deionized water and, if necessary, stored in the appropriate storage solution. Prior to use, the equipment is equilibrated with appropriate buffers (as described herein or as is well known in the art).

[0928] In a further preferred embodiment, 1M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> is used in place of 1M CaCl<sub>2</sub> in Step 1 of the Recovery section described above. Also, in this embodiment, a combination of ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and CaCl<sub>2</sub> may be used. Many combinations of 0.1 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.9 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, may be used in the Recovery process of recombinant BLyS protein such as, for example, but not limited to, a combination of 0.1 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.9 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.2 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.8 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.3 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.7 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.4 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.6 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.5 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.6 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.4 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.7 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.3 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.8 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.2 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.9 M ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.1 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>, and others. However, the presence of EDTA will inhibit the recovery process. Moreover, the presence of ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and/or CaCl<sub>2</sub> in

Recovery Buffer-1 will induce the formation of larger amounts of higher molecular weight (or molecular mass) BLyS multimers.

***EXAMPLE 3: Cloning and Expression of BLyS in Mammalian Cells***

[0929] A typical mammalian expression vector contains the promoter element, which mediates the initiation of transcription of mRNA, the protein coding sequence, and signals required for the termination of transcription and polyadenylation of the transcript. Additional elements include enhancers, Kozak sequences and intervening sequences flanked by donor and acceptor sites for RNA splicing. Highly efficient transcription can be achieved with the early and late promoters from SV40, the long terminal repeats (LTRs) from Retroviruses, e.g., RSV, HTLV, HIVI and the early promoter of the cytomegalovirus (CMV). However, cellular elements can also be used (e.g., the human actin promoter). Suitable expression vectors for use in practicing the present invention include, for example, vectors such as pSVL and pMSG (Pharmacia, Uppsala, Sweden), pRSVcat (ATCC 37152), pSV2dhfr (ATCC 37146) and pBC12MI (ATCC 67109). Mammalian host cells that could be used include, human HeLa, 293, H9 and Jurkat cells, mouse NIH3T3 and C127 cells, Cos 1, Cos 7 and CV1, quail QC1-3 cells, mouse L cells, Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells CHO-K1, NSO and HEK 293 cells.

[0930] Alternatively, the gene can be expressed in stable cell lines that contain the gene integrated into a chromosome. The co-transfection with a selectable marker such as dhfr, gpt, neomycin, hygromycin allows the identification and isolation of the transfected cells.

[0931] The transfected gene can also be amplified to express large amounts of the encoded protein. The DHFR (dihydrofolate reductase) marker is useful to develop cell lines that carry several hundred or even several thousand copies of the gene of interest. Another useful selection marker is the enzyme glutamine synthase (GS) (Murphy et al., *Biochem J.* 227:277-279 (1991); Bebbington et al., *Bio/Technology* 10:169-175 (1992)). Using these markers, the mammalian cells are grown in selective medium and the cells with the highest resistance are selected. These cell lines contain the amplified gene(s)

integrated into a chromosome. Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) and NSO cells are often used for the production of proteins.

[0932] The expression vectors pC1 and pC4 contain the strong promoter (LTR) of the Rous Sarcoma Virus (Cullen et al., Molecular and Cellular Biology, 438-447 (March, 1985)) plus a fragment of the CMV-enhancer (Boshart et al., Cell 41:521-530 (1985)). Multiple cloning sites, e.g., with the restriction enzyme cleavage sites *Bam* HI, *Xba* I and *Asp* 718, facilitate the cloning of the gene of interest. The vectors contain in addition the 3' intron, the polyadenylation and termination signal of the rat preproinsulin gene.

***EXAMPLE 3(A): Cloning and Expression in COS Cells***

[0933] The expression plasmid, pBLyS-HA, is made by cloning a portion of the deposited cDNA encoding the extracellular domain of the protein into the expression vector pcDNAI/Amp or pcDNAIII (which can be obtained from Invitrogen, Inc.). To produce a soluble, secreted form of the polypeptide, the extracellular domain is fused to the secretory leader sequence of the human IL-6 gene.

[0934] The expression vector pcDNAI/amp contains: (1) an *E. coli* origin of replication effective for propagation in *E. coli* and other prokaryotic cells; (2) an ampicillin resistance gene for selection of plasmid-containing prokaryotic cells; (3) an SV40 origin of replication for propagation in eukaryotic cells; (4) a CMV promoter, a polylinker, an SV40 intron; (5) several codons encoding a hemagglutinin fragment (i.e., an "HA" tag to facilitate purification) followed by a termination codon and polyadenylation signal arranged so that a cDNA can be conveniently placed under expression control of the CMV promoter and operably linked to the SV40 intron and the polyadenylation signal by means of restriction sites in the polylinker. The HA tag corresponds to an epitope derived from the influenza hemagglutinin protein described by Wilson et al., *Cell* 37: 767 (1984). The fusion of the HA tag to the target protein allows easy detection and recovery of the recombinant protein with an antibody that recognizes the HA epitope. pcDNAIII contains, in addition, the selectable neomycin marker.

[0935] A DNA fragment encoding the extracellular domain of the BLyS polypeptide is cloned into the polylinker region of the vector so that recombinant protein expression is

directed by the CMV promoter. The plasmid construction strategy is as follows. The BLyS cDNA of the deposited clone is amplified using primers that contain convenient restriction sites, much as described above for construction of vectors for expression of BLyS in *E. coli*. Suitable primers include the following, which are used in this example. The 5' primer, containing the underlined *Bam* HI site, a Kozak sequence, an AUG start codon, a sequence encoding the secretory leader peptide from the human IL-6 gene, and 18 nucleotides of the 5' coding region of the extracellular domain of BLyS protein, has the following sequence: 5'-GCG GGA TCC GCC ACC ATG AAC TCC TTC TCC ACA AGC GCC TTC GGT CCA GTT GCC TTC TCC CTG GGG CTG CTC CTG GTG TTG CCT GCT GCC TTC CCT GCC CCA GTT GTG AGA CAA GGG GAC CTG GCC AGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:16). The 3' primer, containing the underlined *Bam* HI restriction site and 18 of nucleotides complementary to the 3' coding sequence immediately before the stop codon, has the following sequence: 5'-GTG GGA TCC TTA CAG CAG TTT CAA TGC ACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:17).

[0936] The PCR amplified DNA fragment and the vector, pcDNA1/Amp, are digested with *Bam* HI and then ligated. The ligation mixture is transformed into *E. coli* strain SURE (available from Stratagene Cloning Systems, 11099 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037), and the transformed culture is plated on ampicillin media plates which then are incubated to allow growth of ampicillin resistant colonies. Plasmid DNA is isolated from resistant colonies and examined by restriction analysis or other means for the presence of the fragment encoding the BLyS extracellular domain.

[0937] For expression of recombinant BLyS, COS cells are transfected with an expression vector, as described above, using DEAE-DEXTRAN, as described, for instance, in Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning: a Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, New York (1989). Cells are incubated under conditions for expression of BLyS by the vector.

[0938] Expression of the BLyS-HA fusion protein is detected by radiolabeling and immunoprecipitation, using methods described in, for example Harlow et al., *Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd Ed.*; Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, New York (1988). To this end, two days after transfection, the cells are labeled

by incubation in media containing  $^{35}$ S-cysteine for 8 hours. The cells and the media are collected, and the cells are washed and lysed with detergent-containing RIPA buffer: 150 mM NaCl, 1% NP-40, 0.1% SDS, 1% NP-40, 0.5% DOC, 50 mM TRIS, pH 7.5, as described by Wilson et al. cited above. Proteins are precipitated from the cell lysate and from the culture media using an HA-specific monoclonal antibody. The precipitated proteins then are analyzed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography. An expression product of the expected size is seen in the cell lysate, which is not seen in negative controls.

**EXAMPLE 3(B): Cloning and Expression in CHO Cells**

[0939] The vector pC4 is used for the expression of BLyS protein. Plasmid pC4 is a derivative of the plasmid pSV2-dhfr (ATCC Accession No. 37146). To produce a soluble, secreted form of the BLyS polypeptide, the portion of the deposited cDNA encoding the extracellular domain is fused to the secretory leader sequence of the human IL-6 gene. The vector plasmid contains the mouse DHFR gene under control of the SV40 early promoter. Chinese hamster ovary- or other cells lacking dihydrofolate activity that are transfected with these plasmids can be selected by growing the cells in a selective medium (alpha minus MEM, Life Technologies) supplemented with the chemotherapeutic agent methotrexate. The amplification of the DHFR genes in cells resistant to methotrexate (MTX) has been well documented (see, e.g., Alt, F. W., Kellems, R. M., Bertino, J. R., and Schimke, R. T., 1978, *J. Biol. Chem.* 253:1357-1370, Hamlin, J. L. and Ma, C. 1990, *Biochem. et Biophys. Acta*, 1097:107-143, Page, M. J. and Sydenham, M. A. 1991, *Biotechnology* 9:64-68). Cells grown in increasing concentrations of MTX develop resistance to the drug by overproducing the target enzyme, DHFR, as a result of amplification of the DHFR gene. If a second gene is linked to the DHFR gene, it is usually co-amplified and over-expressed. It is known in the art that this approach may be used to develop cell lines carrying more than 1,000 copies of the amplified gene(s). Subsequently, when the methotrexate is withdrawn, cell lines are obtained which contain the amplified gene integrated into one or more chromosome(s) of the host cell.

[0940] Plasmid pC4 contains for expressing the gene of interest the strong promoter of the long terminal repeat (LTR) of the Rous Sarcoma Virus (Cullen, et al., *Molecular and*

*Cellular Biology*, March 1985:438-447) plus a fragment isolated from the enhancer of the immediate early gene of human cytomegalovirus (CMV) (Boshart et al., *Cell* 41:521-530 (1985)). Downstream of the promoter are the following single restriction enzyme cleavage sites that allow the integration of the genes: BamHI, Xba I, and Asp718. Behind these cloning sites the plasmid contains the 3' intron and polyadenylation site of the rat preproinsulin gene. Other high efficiency promoters can also be used for the expression, e.g., the human beta-actin promoter, the SV40 early or late promoters or the long terminal repeats from other retroviruses, e.g., HIV and HTLV. Clontech's Tet-Off and Tet-On gene expression systems and similar systems can be used to express the BLyS in a regulated way in mammalian cells (Gossen, M., & Bujard, H. 1992, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89: 5547-5551). For the polyadenylation of the mRNA other signals, e.g., from the human growth hormone or globin genes can be used as well. Stable cell lines carrying a gene of interest integrated into the chromosomes can also be selected upon co-transfection with a selectable marker such as gpt, G418 or hygromycin. It is advantageous to use more than one selectable marker in the beginning, e.g., G418 plus methotrexate.

[0941] The plasmid pC4 is digested with the restriction enzymes *Bam* HI and then dephosphorylated using calf intestinal phosphates by procedures known in the art. The vector is then isolated from a 1% agarose gel.

[0942] The DNA sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the BLyS protein is amplified using PCR oligonucleotide primers corresponding to the 5' and 3' sequences of the gene. The 5' primer, containing the underlined *Bam* HI site, a Kozak sequence, an AUG start codon, a sequence encoding the secretory leader peptide from the human IL-6 gene, and 18 nucleotides of the 5' coding region of the extracellular domain of BLyS protein, has the following sequence: 5'-GCG GGA TCC GCC ACC ATG AAC TCC TTC TCC ACA AGC GCC TTC GGT CCA GTT GCC TTC TCC CTG GGG CTG CTC CTG GTG TTG CCT GCT GCC TTC CCT GCC CCA GTT GTG AGA CAA GGG GAC CTG GCC AGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:16). The 3' primer, containing the underlined *Bam* HI and 18 of nucleotides complementary to the 3' coding sequence immediately before the stop codon, has the following sequence: 5'-GTG GGA TCC TTA CAG CAG TTT CAA TGC ACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:17).

[0943] The amplified fragment is digested with the endonuclease Bam HI and then purified again on a 1% agarose gel. The isolated fragment and the dephosphorylated vector are then ligated with T4 DNA ligase. *E. coli* HB101 or XL-1 Blue cells are then transformed and bacteria are identified that contain the fragment inserted into plasmid pC4 using, for instance, restriction enzyme analysis.

[0944] Chinese hamster ovary cells lacking an active DHFR gene are used for transfection. Five  $\mu$ g of the expression plasmid pC4 is cotransfected with 0.5  $\mu$ g of the plasmid pSVneo using lipofectin (Felgner et al., *supra*). The plasmid pSV2-neo contains a dominant selectable marker, the *neo* gene from Tn5 encoding an enzyme that confers resistance to a group of antibiotics including G418. The cells are seeded in alpha minus MEM supplemented with 1 mg/ml G418. After 2 days, the cells are trypsinized and seeded in hybridoma cloning plates (Greiner, Germany) in alpha minus MEM supplemented with 10, 25, or 50 ng/ml of methotrexate plus 1 mg/ml G418. After about 10-14 days single clones are trypsinized and then seeded in 6-well petri dishes or 10 ml flasks using different concentrations of methotrexate (50 nM, 100 nM, 200 nM, 400 nM, 800 nM). Clones growing at the highest concentrations of methotrexate are then transferred to new 6-well plates containing even higher concentrations of methotrexate (1  $\mu$ M, 2  $\mu$ M, 5  $\mu$ M, 10  $\mu$ M, 20  $\mu$ M). The same procedure is repeated until clones are obtained which grow at a concentration of 100-200  $\mu$ M. Expression of the desired gene product is analyzed, for instance, by SDS-PAGE and Western blot or by reversed phase HPLC analysis.

[0945] At least six BLyS expression constructs have been generated by the inventors herein to facilitate the production of BLyS and/or BLySSV polypeptides of several sizes and in several systems. The expression constructs are as follows: (1) pNa.A71-L285 (expresses amino acid residues Ala-71 through Leu-285), (2) pNa.A81-L285 (expresses amino acid residues Ala-81 through Leu-285), (3) pNa.L112-L285 (expresses amino acid residues Leu-112 through Leu-285), (4) pNa.A134-L285 (expresses amino acid residues Ala-134 through Leu-285), (5) pNa.L147-L285 (expresses amino acid residues Leu-147 through Leu-285), and (6) pNa.G161-L285 (expresses amino acid residues Gly-161 through Leu-285).

[0946] In preferred embodiments, the expression constructs are used to express various BLyS muteins from bacterial, baculoviral, and mammalian systems.

[0947] In certain additional preferred embodiments, the constructs express a BLyS polypeptide fragment fused at the N- and/or C-terminus to a heterologous polypeptide, e.g., the signal peptide from human IL-6, the signal peptide from CK-beta8 (amino acids -21 to -1 of the CK-beta8 sequence disclosed in published PCT application PCT/US95/09058), or the human IgG Fc region. Other sequences could be used which are known to those of skill in the art.

***EXAMPLE 4: Tissue distribution of BLyS mRNA expression***

[0948] Northern blot analysis is carried out to examine BLyS gene expression in human tissues, using methods described by, among others, Sambrook *et al.*, cited above. A cDNA probe containing the entire nucleotide sequence of the BLyS protein (SEQ ID NO:1) is labeled with  $^{32}\text{P}$  using the *rediprime*<sup>TM</sup> DNA labeling system (Amersham Life Science), according to manufacturer's instructions. After labeling, the probe is purified using a CHROMA SPIN-100<sup>TM</sup> column (Clontech Laboratories, Inc.), according to manufacturer's protocol number PT1200-1. The purified labeled probe is then used to examine various human tissues for BLyS and/or BLyS mRNA.

[0949] Multiple Tissue Northern (MTN) blots containing various human tissues (H) or human immune system tissues (IM) are obtained from Clontech and are examined with the labeled probe using ExpressHyb<sup>TM</sup> hybridization solution (Clontech) according to manufacturer's protocol number PT1190-1. Following hybridization and washing, the blots are mounted and exposed to film at -70° C overnight, and films developed according to standard procedures.

[0950] To determine the pattern of BLyS and/or BLyS expression a panel of multiple tissue Northern blots were probed. This revealed predominant expression of single 2.6 kb mRNA in peripheral blood leukocytes, spleen, lymph node and bone marrow, and detectable expression in placenta, heart, lung, fetal liver, thymus and pancreas. Analysis of a panel of cell lines demonstrated high expression of BLyS and/or BLyS in HL60 cells, detectable expression in K562, but no expression in Raji, HeLa, or MOLT-4 cells. Overall it appears that BLyS and/or BLyS mRNA expression is enriched in the immune system.

***EXAMPLE 5: Gene Therapy Using Endogenous BLyS Gene***

[0951] Another method of gene therapy according to the present invention involves operably associating the endogenous BLyS sequence with a promoter via homologous recombination as described, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 5,641,670, issued June 24, 1997; International Publication No. WO 96/29411, published September 26, 1996; International Publication No. WO 94/12650, published August 4, 1994; Koller et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:8932-8935 (1989); and Zijlstra et al., Nature 342:435-438 (1989). This method involves the activation of a gene which is present in the target cells, but which is not expressed in the cells, or is expressed at a lower level than desired. Polynucleotide constructs are made which contain a promoter and targeting sequences, which are homologous to the 5' non-coding sequence of endogenous BLyS, flanking the promoter. The targeting sequence will be sufficiently near the 5' end of BLyS so the promoter will be operably linked to the endogenous sequence upon homologous recombination. The promoter and the targeting sequences can be amplified using PCR. Preferably, the amplified promoter contains distinct restriction enzyme sites on the 5' and 3' ends. Preferably, the 3' end of the first targeting sequence contains the same restriction enzyme site as the 5' end of the amplified promoter and the 5' end of the second targeting sequence contains the same restriction site as the 3' end of the amplified promoter.

[0952] The amplified promoter and the amplified targeting sequences are digested with the appropriate restriction enzymes and subsequently treated with calf intestinal phosphatase. The digested promoter and digested targeting sequences are added together in the presence of T4 DNA ligase. The resulting mixture is maintained under conditions appropriate for ligation of the two fragments. The construct is size fractionated on an agarose gel then purified by phenol extraction and ethanol precipitation.

[0953] In this Example, the polynucleotide constructs are administered as naked polynucleotides via electroporation. However, the polynucleotide constructs may also be administered with transfection-facilitating agents, such as liposomes, viral sequences, viral particles, precipitating agents, etc. Such methods of delivery are known in the art.

[0954] Once the cells are transfected, homologous recombination will take place which results in the promoter being operably linked to the endogenous BLyS sequence. This results in the expression of BLyS in the cell. Expression may be detected by immunological staining, or any other method known in the art.

[0955] Fibroblasts are obtained from a subject by skin biopsy. The resulting tissue is placed in DMEM + 10% fetal calf serum. Exponentially growing or early stationary phase fibroblasts are trypsinized and rinsed from the plastic surface with nutrient medium. An aliquot of the cell suspension is removed for counting, and the remaining cells are subjected to centrifugation. The supernatant is aspirated and the pellet is resuspended in 5 ml of electroporation buffer (20 mM HEPES pH 7.3, 137 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 0.7 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 6 mM dextrose). The cells are recentrifuged, the supernatant aspirated, and the cells resuspended in electroporation buffer containing 1 mg/ml acetylated bovine serum albumin. The final cell suspension contains approximately 3X10<sup>6</sup> cells/ml. Electroporation should be performed immediately following resuspension.

[0956] Plasmid DNA is prepared according to standard techniques. For example, to construct a plasmid for targeting to the BLyS locus, plasmid pUC18 (MBI Fermentas, Amherst, NY) is digested with HindIII. The CMV promoter is amplified by PCR with an XbaI site on the 5' end and a BamHI site on the 3'end. Two BLyS non-coding sequences are amplified via PCR: one BLyS non-coding sequence (BLyS fragment 1) is amplified with a HindIII site at the 5' end and an Xba site at the 3'end; the other BLyS non-coding sequence (BLyS fragment 2) is amplified with a BamHI site at the 5'end and a HindIII site at the 3'end. The CMV promoter and BLyS fragments are digested with the appropriate enzymes (CMV promoter - XbaI and BamHI; BLyS fragment 1 - XbaI; BLyS fragment 2 - BamHI) and ligated together. The resulting ligation product is digested with HindIII, and ligated with the HindIII-digested pUC18 plasmid.

[0957] Plasmid DNA is added to a sterile cuvette with a 0.4 cm electrode gap (Bio-Rad). The final DNA concentration is generally at least 120 µg/ml. 0.5 ml of the cell suspension (containing approximately 1.5.X10<sup>6</sup> cells) is then added to the cuvette, and the cell suspension and DNA solutions are gently mixed. Electroporation is performed with a Gene-Pulser apparatus (Bio-Rad). Capacitance and voltage are set at 960 µF and 250-300 V, respectively. As voltage increases, cell survival decreases, but the percentage of surviving cells that stably incorporate the introduced DNA into their genome increases dramatically. Given these parameters, a pulse time of approximately 14-20 mSec should be observed.

[0958] Electroporated cells are maintained at room temperature for approximately 5 min, and the contents of the cuvette are then gently removed with a sterile transfer pipette.

The cells are added directly to 10 ml of prewarmed nutrient media (DMEM with 15% calf serum) in a 10 cm dish and incubated at 37 C. The following day, the media is aspirated and replaced with 10 ml of fresh media and incubated for a further 16-24 hours.

[0959] The engineered fibroblasts are then injected into the host, either alone or after having been grown to confluence on cytodex 3 microcarrier beads. The fibroblasts now produce the protein product. The fibroblasts can then be introduced into a patient as described above.

***EXAMPLE 6: BLyS, a Novel Member of the Tumor Necrosis Factor Ligand Family that Functions as a B Lymphocyte Stimulator***

[0960] A 285 amino acid protein was identified in a human neutrophil/monocyte-derived cDNA library that shared significant homology within its predicted extracellular receptor-ligand binding domain to APRIL (28.7%) (Hahne, M., et al., *J.Exp.Med.* 188,1185-90 (1998)), TNF-alpha (16.2%) (Pennica, D., et al., *Nature* 312,724-729 (1984)) and LT-alpha (14.1%) (Gray, *Nature* 312,721-724 (1984)) (Figures 7A-1 and 7A-2). We have designated this cytokine BLyS (we have also designated this molecule as B Lymphocyte Stimulator (BLyS) based on its biological activity). Hydrophobicity analyses of the the BLyS protein sequence have revealed a potential transmembrane spanning domain between amino acid residues 47 and 73 which is preceded by non-hydrophobic amino acids suggesting that BLyS, like other members of the TNF ligand family, is a type II membrane bound protein (Cosman, D. *Stem.Cells.* 12:440-55 (1994)). Expression of this cDNA in mammalian cells (HEK 293 and Chinese Hamster Ovary) and Sf9 insect cells identified a 152 amino acid soluble form with an N-terminal sequence beginning with the alanine residue at amino acid 134 (arrow in Figures 7A-1 and 7A-2). Reconstruction of the mass to charge ratio defined a mass for BLyS of 17,038 Daltons, a value in consistent with that predicted for this 152 amino acid protein with a single disulfide bond (17037.5 Daltons).

[0961] Using human/hamster somatic cell hybrids and a radiation-hybrid mapping panel, the gene encoding BLyS was found linked to marker SHGC-36171 which maps to human chromosome 13q34, a region not previously associated with any other member of the TNF superfamily of genes (Cosman, D. *Stem.Cells.* 12:440-55 (1994)).

[0962] The expression profile of BLyS was assessed by Northern blot (Figure 7B) and flow cytometric analyses (Table V and Figures 8A, 8B and 8C). BLyS is encoded by a single 2.6kb mRNA found at high levels in peripheral blood leukocytes, spleen, lymph node and bone marrow. Lower expression levels were detected in placenta, heart, lung, fetal liver, thymus and pancreas. Among a panel of cell lines, BLyS mRNA was detected in HL-60 and K562, but not in Raji, HeLa, or MOLT-4 cells. These results were confirmed by flow cytometric analyses using the BLyS-specific mAb 2E5. As shown in Table V, BLyS expression is not detected on T or B lineage cells but rather restricted to cells within the myeloid origin. Further analyses of normal blood cell types demonstrated significant expression on resting monocytes that was upregulated approximately 4-fold following exposure of cells to IFN-gamma (100 U/mL) for three days (Figures 8A and 8B). A concomitant increase in BLyS-specific mRNA was also detected (Figure 8C). By contrast, BLyS was not expressed on freshly isolated peripheral blood granulocytes, T cells, B cells, or NK cells.

[0963] Purified recombinant BLyS ("rBLyS") was assessed for its ability to induce activation, proliferation, differentiation or death in numerous cell based assays involving B cells, T cells, monocytes, NK cells, hematopoietic progenitors, and a variety of cell types of endothelial and epithelial origin. Among these assays, BLyS was specifically found to increase B cell proliferation in a standard co-stimulatory assay in which purified tonsillar B cells are cultured in the presence of either formalin-fixed *Staphylococcus aureus* Cowan I (SAC) or immobilized anti-human IgM as priming agents (Sieckmann, D.G., et al., *J.Exp.Med.* 147:814-29 (1978); Ringden, O., et al., *Scand.J.Immunol.* 6:1159-69 (1977)). As shown in Figure 9A, recombinant BLyS induced a dose-dependent proliferation of tonsillar B cells. This response was similar to that of rIL2 over the dose range from 0.1 to 10,000 ng/mL. BLyS also induces B cell proliferation when cultured with cells co-stimulated with immobilized anti-IgM (Figure 9B). A dose-dependent response is readily observed as the amount of crosslinking agent increases in the presence of a fixed concentration of either IL2 or rBLyS.

[0964] In an attempt to correlate the specific biological activity on B cells with receptor expression, purified BLyS was biotinylated. The resultant biotin-BLyS protein retained biological function in the standard B cell proliferation assays. Lineage-specific analyses of whole human peripheral blood cells indicated that binding of biotinylated

BLyS was undetectable on T cells, monocytes, NK cells and granulocytes as assessed by CD3, CD14, CD56, and CD66b respectively (Figures 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D and 10E). In contrast, biotinylated BLyS bound peripheral CD20<sup>+</sup> B cells. Receptor expression was also detected on the B cell tumor lines REH, ARH-77, Raji, Namalwa, RPMI 8226, and IM-9 but not any of the myeloid-derived lines tested including THP-1, HL-60, K-562, and U-937. Representative flow cytometric profiles for the myeloma cell line IM-9 and the histiocytic line U-937 are shown in Figures 10F and 10G. Similar results were also obtained using a biologically active FLAG-tagged BLyS protein instead of the chemically modified biotin-BLyS. Taken together, these results confirm that BLyS displays a clear B cell tropism in both its receptor distribution and biological activity. It remains to be shown whether cellular activation may induce expression of BLyS receptors on peripheral blood cells, other normal cell types or established cell lines.

[0965] To examine the species specificity of BLyS, mouse splenic B cells were cultured in the presence of human BLyS and SAC. Results demonstrate that rBLyS induced *in vitro* proliferation of murine splenic B cells and bound to a cell surface receptor on these cells. Interestingly, immature surface Ig negative B cell precursors isolated from mouse bone marrow did not proliferate in response to BLyS nor did they bind the ligand.

[0966] To assess the *in vivo* activity of rBLyS, BALB/c mice (3/group) were injected (i.p.) twice per day with buffer only, or 0.08 mg/kg, 0.8 mg/kg, 2 mg/kg or 8 mg/kg of rBLyS. Mice received this treatment for 4 consecutive days at which time they were sacrificed and various tissues and serum collected for analyses. In an alternative embodiment, BALB/c mice may be injected (i.p.) twice per day with any amount of rBLyS in a range of 0.01 to 10 mg/kg. In a preferred embodiment, BALB/c mice are injected (i.p.) twice per day with any amount of rBLyS in a range of 0.01 to 3 mg/kg (specific preferred exemplary dosages in this embodiment include, but are not limited to, 0.01 mg/kg, 0.02 mg/kg, 0.03 mg/kg, 0.04 mg/kg, 0.05 mg/kg, 0.06 mg/kg, 0.07 mg/kg, 0.08 mg/kg, 0.09 mg/kg, 0.1 mg/kg, 0.2 mg/kg, 0.3 mg/kg, 0.4 mg/kg, 0.5 mg/kg, 0.6 mg/kg, 0.7 mg/kg, 0.8 mg/kg, 0.9 mg/kg, 1.0 mg/kg, 1.1 mg/kg, 1.2 mg/kg, 1.3 mg/kg, 1.4 mg/kg, 1.5 mg/kg, 1.6 mg/kg, 1.6 mg/kg, 1.7 mg/kg, 1.8 mg/kg, 1.9 mg/kg, 2.0 mg/kg, 2.1 mg/kg, 2.2 mg/kg, 2.3 mg/kg, 2.4 mg/kg, 2.5 mg/kg, 2.6 mg/kg, 2.7 mg/kg, 2.8 mg/kg, 2.9 mg/kg, and 3.0 mg/kg). In an additional preferred embodiment, BALB/c

mice are injected (i.p.) twice per day with any amount of rBLyS in a range of 0.02 to 2 mg/kg (specific preferred exemplary dosages in this embodiment include, but are not limited to, 0.02 mg/kg, 0.03 mg/kg, 0.04 mg/kg, 0.05 mg/kg, 0.06 mg/kg, 0.07 mg/kg, 0.08 mg/kg, 0.09 mg/kg, 0.1 mg/kg, 0.2 mg/kg, 0.3 mg/kg, 0.4 mg/kg, 0.5 mg/kg, 0.6 mg/kg, 0.7 mg/kg, 0.8 mg/kg, 0.9 mg/kg, 1.0 mg/kg, 1.1 mg/kg, 1.2 mg/kg, 1.3 mg/kg, 1.4 mg/kg, 1.5 mg/kg, 1.6 mg/kg, 1.6 mg/kg, 1.7 mg/kg, 1.8 mg/kg, 1.9 mg/kg, and 2.0 mg/kg).

[0967] Microscopically, the effects of BLyS administration were clearly evident in sections of spleen stained with routine hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) and immunohistochemically with a mAb specific for CD45R(B220) (Figure 11A). Normal splenic architecture was altered by a dramatic expansion of the white pulp marginal zone and a distinct increase in cellularity of the red pulp (Figure 11A). Marginal zone expansion appeared to be the result of increased numbers of lymphocytes expressing the B cell marker CD45R(B220). In addition, the T cell dense periarteriolar lymphoid sheath (PALS) areas were also infiltrated by moderate numbers of CD45R(B220) positive cells. This suggests the white pulp changes were due to increased numbers of B cells. The densely packed cell population that frequently filled red pulps spaces did not stain with CD45R(B220). Additional experiments will be required to characterize all the cell types involved and further define the mechanism by which BLyS alters splenic architecture.

[0968] Flow cytometric analyses of the spleens from mice treated with 2 mg/kg BLyS-treated indicated that BLyS increased the proportion of mature ( $CD45R(B220)^{dull}$ ,  $ThB^{bright}$ ) B cells approximately 10-fold over that observed in control mice (Figures 11B and 11C). Further analyses performed in which mice were treated with buffer, 0.08 mg/kg, 0.8 mg/kg, 2 mg/kg, or 8 mg/kg BLyS indicated that 0.08 mg/kg, 0.8 mg/kg, and 2 mg/kg each increased the proportion of mature ( $CD45R(B220)^{dull}$ ,  $ThB^{bright}$ ) B cells approximately 10-fold over that observed in control mice, whereas buffer and 8 mg/kg produced approximately equal proportions of mature B cells. See, Table IV.

**Table IV. FACS Analysis of Mouse Spleen B cell Population.**

<i>BLyS</i> (mg/kg)	<u>% Mature B Cells (R2)</u>	<u>% CD45R-positive (R1)</u>
Control (buffer)	1.26	52.17
0.08 mg/kg	16.15	56.53
0.8 mg/kg	18.54	57.56
2 mg/kg	16.54	57.55
8 mg/kg	1.24	61.42

[0969] A potential consequence of increased mature B cell representation *in vivo* is a relative increase in serum Ig titers. Accordingly, serum IgA, IgG and IgM levels were compared between buffer and BLyS-treated mice (Figures 11D, 11E, and 11F). BLyS administration resulted in a 2- and 5-fold increase in IgA and IgM serum levels respectively. Interestingly, circulating levels of IgG did not increase.

[0970] Moreover, a dose-dependent response was observed in serum IgA titers in mice treated with various amounts of BLyS over a period of four days, whereas no apparent dose-dependency was observed by administration of the same amounts of BLyS over a period of two days. In the case of administration over four days, administration of 8, 2, 0.8, 0.08, and 0 mg/kg BLyS resulted in serum IgA titers of approximately 800 micrograms/ml, 700 micrograms/ml, 400 micrograms/ml, 200 micrograms/ml and 200 micrograms/ml. That is, administration of 8, 2, 0.8, and 0.08 mg/kg BLyS over four days resulted in approximately 4-fold, 3.75-fold, 2-fold, and minimal-fold, respectively, increases in IgA serum levels over background or basal levels observed by administration of buffer only. In an alternative embodiment, these experiments may be performed with any amount of rBLyS in a range of 0.01 to 10 mg/kg. In a preferred embodiment, BLyS is administered in a range of 0.01 to 3 mg/kg (specific preferred exemplary dosages in this embodiment include, but are not limited to, 0.01 mg/kg, 0.02 mg/kg, 0.03 mg/kg, 0.04 mg/kg, 0.05 mg/kg, 0.06 mg/kg, 0.07 mg/kg, 0.08 mg/kg, 0.09 mg/kg, 0.1 mg/kg, 0.2 mg/kg, 0.3 mg/kg, 0.4 mg/kg, 0.5 mg/kg, 0.6 mg/kg, 0.7 mg/kg, 0.8 mg/kg, 0.9 mg/kg, 1.0 mg/kg, 1.1 mg/kg, 1.2 mg/kg, 1.3 mg/kg, 1.4 mg/kg, 1.5 mg/kg, 1.6 mg/kg, 1.6 mg/kg, 1.7 mg/kg, 1.8 mg/kg, 1.9 mg/kg, 2.0 mg/kg, 2.1 mg/kg, 2.2 mg/kg, 2.3 mg/kg, 2.4 mg/kg, 2.5 mg/kg, 2.6 mg/kg, 2.7 mg/kg, 2.8 mg/kg, 2.9 mg/kg, and 3.0 mg/kg). In an additional preferred embodiment, BLyS is administered in a range of 0.02 to 2 mg/kg

(specific preferred exemplary dosages in this embodiment include, but are not limited to, 0.02 mg/kg, 0.03 mg/kg, 0.04 mg/kg, 0.05 mg/kg, 0.06 mg/kg, 0.07 mg/kg, 0.08 mg/kg, 0.09 mg/kg, 0.1 mg/kg, 0.2 mg/kg, 0.3 mg/kg, 0.4 mg/kg, 0.5 mg/kg, 0.6 mg/kg, 0.7 mg/kg, 0.8 mg/kg, 0.9 mg/kg, 1.0 mg/kg, 1.1 mg/kg, 1.2 mg/kg, 1.3 mg/kg, 1.4 mg/kg, 1.5 mg/kg, 1.6 mg/kg, 1.7 mg/kg, 1.8 mg/kg, 1.9 mg/kg, and 2.0 mg/kg).

[0971] The data presented herein define BLyS, as a novel member of the TNF-ligand superfamily that induces both *in vivo* and *in vitro* B cell proliferation and differentiation. BLyS is distinguished from other B cell growth and differentiation factors such as IL2 (Metzger, D.W., *et al.*, *Res.Immunol.* 146:499-505 (1995)), IL4 (Armitage, R.J., *et al.*, *Adv.Exp.Med.Biol.* 292:121-30 (1991); Yokota, T., *et al.*, *Proc.Natl.Acad.Sci.U.S.A.* 83:5894-98 (1986)), IL5 (Takatsu, K., *et al.*, *Proc.Natl.Acad.Sci.U.S.A.* 84:4234-38 (1987); Bertolini, J.N., *et al.*, *Eur.J.Immunol.* 23:398-402 (1993)), IL6 (Poupart, P., *et al.*, *EMBO J.* 6:1219-24 (1987); Hirano, T., *et al.*, *Nature* 324:73-76 (1986)) IL7 (Goodwin, R.G., *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 86:302-06 (1989); Namen, A.E., *et al.*, *Nature* 333:571-73 (1988)), IL13 (Punnonen, J., *et al.*, *Allergy* 49:576-86 (1994)), IL15 (Armitage, R.J., *et al.*, *J.Immunol.* 154:483-90 (1995)), CD40L (Armitage, R.J., *et al.*, *Nature* 357:80-82 (1992); Van Kooten, C. and Banchereau, J. *Int.Arch.Allergy.Immunol.* 113:393-99 (1997)) or CD27L (CD70) (Oshima, H., *et al.*, *Int.Immunol.* 10:517-26 (1998); Lens, S.M., *et al.*, *Semin.Immunol.* 10:491-99 (1998)) by its monocyte-specific gene/protein expression pattern and its specific receptor distribution and biological activity on B lymphocytes. Taken together these data suggest that BLyS is likely involved in the exchange of signals between B cells and monocytes or their differentiated progeny. Although all B cells may utilize this mode of signaling, the restricted expression patterns and Ig secretion suggest a role for BLyS in the activation of CD5<sup>+</sup> or "unconventional" B cell responses. These B cells provide a critical component to the innate immune system and provide protection from environmental pathogens through their secretion of polyreactive IgM and IgA antibodies (Pennell, C.A., *et al.*, *Eur.J.Immunol.* 19:1289-95 (1989); Hayakawa, K., *et al.*, *Proc.Natl.Acad.Sci.U.S.A.* 81:2494-98 (1984)). Alternatively, BLyS may function as a regulator of T cell independent responses in a manner analogous to that of CD40 and CD40L in T cell dependent antigen activation (van den Eertwegh, A.J., *et al.*, *J.Exp.Med.* 178:1555-65 (1993); Grabstein, K.H., *et al.*, *J.Immunol.* 150:3141-47 (1993)). As such, BLyS, its

receptor or related antagonists have utility in the treatment of B cell disorders associated with autoimmunity, neoplasia and/or immunodeficient syndromes.

[0972] *Methods*

[0973] **Mice.** BALB/cAnNCR (6-8 weeks) were purchased from Charles River Laboratories, Inc. and maintained according to recommended standards (National Research Council, *Guide for the care and use of laboratory animals* (1999)) in microisolator cages with recycled paper bedding (Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc., Indianapolis, IN) and provided with pelleted rodent diet (Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc) and bottled drinking water on an ad libitum basis. The animal protocols used in this study were reviewed and approved by the HGS Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

[0974] **Isolation of full length BLyS cDNA.** The BLAST algorithm was used to search the Human Genome Sciences Inc. expressed sequence tag (EST) database for sequences with homology to the receptor-binding domain of the TNF family. A full length BLyS clone was identified, sequenced and submitted to GenBank (Accession number AF132600). The BLyS open reading frame was PCR amplified utilizing a 5' primer (5'-CAG ACT GGA TCC GCC ACC ATG GAT GAC TCC ACA GAA AG-3') annealing at the predicted start codon and a 3' primer (5'-CAG ACT GGT ACC GTC CTG CGT GCA CTA CAT GGC-3') designed to anneal at the predicted downstream stop codon. The resulting amplicon was tailed with Bam HI and Asp 718 restriction sites and subcloned into a mammalian expression vector. BLyS was also expressed in p-CMV-1 (Sigma Chemicals).

[0975] **Purification of recombinant human BLyS.** The full length cDNA encoding BLyS was subcloned into the baculovirus expression vector pA2 and transfected into SF9 insect cells (Patel, V.P., et al., *J.Exp.Med.* 185:1163-72 (1997)). Recombinant BLyS was purified from cell supernatants at 92 h post-infection using a combination of anion-exchange, size exclusion, and hydrophobic interaction columns. The purified protein was formulated in a buffer containing 0.15 M NaCl, 50 mM NaOAc at pH 6, sterile filtered and stored at 4 C until needed. Both SDS-PAGE and RP-HPLC analyses indicate that rBLyS is greater than 95% pure. Endotoxin levels were below the detection limit in the LAL assay (Associates of Cape Cod, Falmouth, MA). The final purified BLyS protein has an N-terminus sequence of Ala-Val-Gln-Gly-Pro. This corresponds identically to the

sequence of soluble BLyS derived from CHO cell lines stably transfected with the full length BLyS gene.

[0976] **Monoclonal antibody generation.** BALB/cAnNCR mice were immunized with 50 micrograms of HisTag-BLyS suspended in complete Freund's adjuvant followed by 2 challenges in incomplete Freund's adjuvant. Hybridomas and monoclonal antibodies were prepared as described (Geftter, M.L., *et al.*, *Somatic Cell Genet.* 3:231-36 (1977); Akerstrom, B., *et al.*, *J.Immunol.* 135:2589-92 (1985)).

[0977] **Cell lines.** All human cell lines were purchased from ATCC (American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VA).

[0978] **FACS analysis.** BLyS expression was assessed on human cell lines, freshly isolated normal peripheral blood nucleated cells, and in vitro cultured monocytes, a mouse anti-human BLyS mAb 2E5 (IgG1) followed by PE-conjugated F(ab')2 goat antibody to mouse IgG (CALTAG Laboratories, Burlingame, CA). Cells were analyzed using a FACScan (Becton Dickinson Immunocytometry Systems, San Jose, CA) with propidium iodide to exclude dead cells. BLyS binding was assessed using rBLyS biotinylated with a N-hydroxysuccinimidobiotin reagent (Pierce, Rockford, IL) followed by PE-conjugated streptavidin (Dako Corp, Glostrup, Denmark).

[0979] **Chromosomal mapping.** To determine the chromosomal location of the BLyS gene, a panel of monochromosomal somatic cell hybrids (Quantum Biotechnology, Canada) retaining individual chromosomes was screened by PCR using BLyS specific primers ( 5' primer: 5'-TGG TGT CTT TCT ACC AGG TGG-3' and 3' primer: 5'-TTT CTT CTG GAC CCT GAA CGG-3'). The predicted 233 bp PCR product was only detected in human chromosome 13 hybrids. Using a panel of 83 radiation hybrids (Research Genetics, St. Louis, MO) and the Stanford Human Genome Center Database, (<http://www.shgc.stanford.edu.RH/rhserver>). BLyS was found linked to the SHGC-36171 marker on chromosome 13. Superposition of this map with the cytogenetic map of human chromosome 13 allowed the assignment of human BLyS to chromosomal band 13q34.

[0980] **B lymphocyte proliferation assay.** Human tonsillar B cells were purified by magnetic bead (MACS) depletion of CD3-positive cells. The resulting cell population was routinely greater than 95% B cells as assessed by expression of CD19 and CD20. Various dilutions of human rBLyS or the control protein recombinant human IL2 were

placed into individual wells of a 96-well plate to which was added  $10^5$  B cells suspended in culture medium (RPMI 1640 containing 10% FBS,  $5 \times 10^{-5}$ M 2ME, 100U/ml penicillin, 100 microgram/ml streptomycin, and  $10^{-5}$  dilution of Pansorbin (SAC) or anti-IgM) in a total volume of 150 microliters. Proliferation was quantitated by a 20h pulse (1 microCi/well) of  $^{3}\text{H}$ -thymidine (6.7 Ci/mM) beginning 72h post factor addition.

[0981] **Histological analyses.** Spleens were fixed in 10% neutral buffered formalin, embedded in paraffin, sectioned at 5 micrometers, mounted on glass slides and stained with hematoxylin and eosin or by enzyme-labeled indirect method immunohistochemistry for CD45R(B220) (Hilbert, D.M., *et al.*, *Eur.J.Immunol.* 23:2412-18 (1993)).

**Table V. BLyS cell surface expression**

Cell line	Cellular Morphology	BLyS cell surface expression
<b>Monocytic lineage</b>		
U-937	Lymphoma, histiocytic/macrophage	+
BL-60	Leukemia, acute promyelocytic	+
K-562	Leukemia, chronic myelogenous	+
THP-1	Leukemia, acute monocytic	+
<b>T-lineage</b>		
Jurkat	Leukemia, T lymphocytic	-
SUP-T13	Leukemia, T lymphoblastic	-
MOLT-4	Leukemia, T lymphoblastic	-
<b>B-lineage</b>		
Daudi	Burkitt's, lymphoblastic	-
Namalwa	Burkitt's, lymphocyte	-
Raji	Burkitt's, lymphocyte	-
Reh	Leukemia, lymphocytic	-
ARH-77	Leukemia, plasma cell	-
IM9	Myeloma	-
RPMI 8226	Myeloma	-

**EXAMPLE 7: Assays to detect stimulation or inhibition of B cell proliferation and differentiation**

[0982] Generation of functional humoral immune responses requires both soluble and cognate signaling between B-lineage cells and their microenvironment. Signals may impart a positive stimulus that allows a B-lineage cell to continue its programmed development, or a negative stimulus that instructs the cell to arrest its current developmental pathway. To date, numerous stimulatory and inhibitory signals have been found to influence B cell responsiveness including IL-2, IL-4, IL5, IL6, IL-7, IL10, IL-13, IL14 and IL15. Interestingly, these signals are by themselves weak effectors but can, in combination with various co-stimulatory proteins, induce activation, proliferation, differentiation, homing, tolerance and death among B cell populations. One of the best studied classes of B-cell co-stimulatory proteins is the TNF-superfamily. Within this family CD40, CD27, and CD30 along with their respective ligands CD154, CD70, and CD153 have been found to regulate a variety of immune responses. Assays which allow for the detection and/or observation of the proliferation and differentiation of these B-cell populations and their precursors are valuable tools in determining the effects various proteins may have on these B-cell populations in terms of proliferation and differentiation. Listed below are two assays designed to allow for the detection of the differentiation, proliferation, or inhibition of B-cell populations and their precursors.

[0983] *In Vitro* assay- Purified BLyS and/or BLySSV protein, or truncated forms thereof, is assessed for its ability to induce activation, proliferation, differentiation or inhibition and/or death in B-cell populations and their precursors. The activity of BLyS and/or BLySSV protein on purified human tonsillar B cells, measured qualitatively over the dose range from 0.1 to 10,000 ng/mL, is assessed in a standard B-lymphocyte co-stimulation assay in which purified tonsillar B cells are cultured in the presence of either formalin-fixed *Staphylococcus aureus* Cowan I (SAC) or immobilized anti-human IgM antibody as the priming agent. Second signals such as IL-2 and IL-15 synergize with SAC and IgM crosslinking to elicit B cell proliferation as measured by tritiated-thymidine incorporation. Novel synergizing agents can be readily identified using this assay. The assay involves isolating human tonsillar B cells by magnetic bead (MACS) depletion of CD3-positive cells. The resulting cell population is greater than 95% B cells as assessed by expression of CD45R(B220). Various dilutions of each sample are placed into

individual wells of a 96-well plate to which are added  $10^5$  B-cells suspended in culture medium (RPMI 1640 containing 10% FBS, 5 X  $10^{-5}$ M 2ME, 100U/ml penicillin, 10 ug/ml streptomycin, and  $10^{-5}$  dilution of SAC) in a total volume of 150ul. Proliferation or inhibition is quantitated by a 20h pulse (1uCi/well) with  $^3$ H-thymidine (6.7 Ci/mM) beginning 72h post factor addition. The positive and negative controls are IL2 and medium respectively.

[0984] Agonists (including BLyS and/or BLySSV polypeptide fragments) demonstrate an increased B cell proliferation when compared to that observed when the same number of B cells is contacted with the same concentration of priming agent. Antagonists according to the invention exhibit a decreased B cell proliferation when compared to controls containing the same number of B cells, the same concentration of priming agent, and the same concentration of a soluble form of BLyS that elicits an increase in B cell proliferative activity (e.g., 71-285, 81-285, 112-285 or 134-285 of the BLyS polypeptide shown in SEQ ID NO:2) in the absence the antagonist.

[0985] *In Vivo* assay- BALB/c mice are injected (i.p.) twice per day with buffer only, or 2 mg/Kg of BLyS and/or BLySSV protein, or truncated forms thereof. Mice receive this treatment for 4 consecutive days, at which time they are sacrificed and various tissues and serum collected for analyses. Comparison of H&E sections from normal and BLyS and/or BLySSV protein-treated spleens identify the results of the activity of BLyS and/or BLySSV protein on spleen cells, such as the diffusion of peri-arterial lymphatic sheaths, and/or significant increases in the nucleated cellularity of the red pulp regions, which may indicate the activation of the differentiation and proliferation of B-cell populations. Immunohistochemical studies using a B cell marker, anti-CD45R(B220), are used to determine whether any physiological changes to splenic cells, such as splenic disorganization, are due to increased B-cell representation within loosely defined B-cell zones that infiltrate established T-cell regions.

[0986] Flow cytometric analyses of the spleens from BLyS and/or BLySSV protein-treated mice is used to indicate whether BLyS and/or BLySSV protein specifically increases the proportion of ThB+, CD45R(B220)dull B cells over that which is observed in control mice.

[0987] Likewise, a predicted consequence of increased mature B-cell representation *in vivo* is a relative increase in serum Ig titers. Accordingly, serum IgM and IgA levels are compared between buffer and BLyS and/or BLySSV protein-treated mice.

***EXAMPLE 8: Effect of BLyS and its agonists in treating graft-versus-host disease associated lymphoid atrophy and hypoplasia in mice***

[0988] An analysis of the use of BLyS to treat, prevent, and/or diagnose graft-versus-host disease (GVHD)-associated lymphoid hypoplasia/atrophy is performed through the use of a C57BL/6 parent into (BALB/c X C57BL/6) F1 (CBF1) mouse model. This parent into F1 mouse model is a well-characterized and reproducible animal model of GVHD in bone marrow transplant patients, which is well known to one of ordinary skill in the art (see, Gleichemann, *et al.*, *Immunol. Today* 5:324, 1984). Soluble BLyS is expected to induce the proliferation and differentiation of B lymphocyte, and correct the lymphoid hypoplasia and atrophy observed in this animal model of GVHD (Piguet, *et al.*, *J. Exp. Med.* 166:1280 (1987); Hattori, *et al.*, *Blood* 90:542 (1997)).

[0989] Initiation of the GVHD condition is induced by the intravenous injection of approximately  $1\text{-}5 \times 10^8$  spleen cells from C57BL/6 mice into (BALB/c X C57BL/6) F1 mice (both are available from Jackson Lab, Bar Harbor, Maine). Groups of 6 to 8 mice receive daily either 0.1 to 5.0 mg/kg of BLyS or buffer control intraperitoneally, intramuscularly or intradermally starting from the days when lymphoid hypoplasia and atrophy are mild (~day 5), moderate (~day 12) or severe (~day 20) following the parental cell injection. The effect of BLyS on lymphoid hypoplasia and atrophy of spleen is analyzed by FACS and histopathology at multiple time points (3-4) between day 10-30. Briefly, splenocytes are prepared from normal CBF1, GVHD or BLyS-treated mice, and stained with fluorescein phycoerythrin-conjugated anti-H-2K<sup>b</sup>, biotin-conjugated anti-H-2K<sup>d</sup>, and FITC-conjugated anti-CD4, anti-CD8, or anti-B220, followed by a CyChrome-conjugated avidin. All of these conjugated antibodies can be purchased from PharMingen (San Diego, CA). Cells are then analyzed on a FACScan (Becton Dickinson, San Jose, CA). Recipient and donor lymphocytes are identified as H-2K<sup>b</sup>+ Kd+ and H-2K<sup>b</sup>+ Kd- cells, respectively. Cell numbers of CD4+T, CD8+ T and B220+ B cells of recipient or donor origin are calculated from the total numbers of splenocytes recovered and the percentages of each subpopulation are determined by the three color analysis.

Histological evaluation of the relative degree of tissue damage in other GVHD-associated organs (liver, skin and intestine) may be conducted after sacrificing the animals.

[0990] Finally, BLyS and buffer-treated animals undergo a clinical evaluation every other day to assess cachexia, body weight and lethality.

[0991] BLyS agonists and antagonists may also be examined in this acute GVHD murine model.

***EXAMPLE 9: Isolation of antibody fragments directed against BLyS polypeptides from a library of scFvs.***

[0992] Naturally occurring V-genes isolated from human PBLs are constructed into a large library of antibody fragments which contain reactivities against BLyS and/or BLySSV to which the donor may or may not have been exposed (see e.g., U.S. Patent 5,885,793 incorporated herein in its entirety by reference).

[0993] **Rescue of the library.**

[0994] A library of scFvs is constructed from the RNA of human PBLs as described in WO92/01047 (which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety). To rescue phage displaying antibody fragments, approximately  $10^9$  *E. coli* harboring the phagemid are used to inoculate 50 ml of 2x TY containing 1% glucose and 100 micrograms/ml of ampicillin (2xTY-AMP-GLU) and grown to an O.D. of 0.8 with shaking. Five ml of this culture is used to inoculate 50 ml of 2xTY-AMP-GLU,  $2 \times 10^8$  TU of delta gene 3 helper (M13 delta gene III, see WO92/01047) are added and the culture incubated at 37 C for 45 minutes without shaking and then at 37 C for 45 minutes with shaking. The culture is centrifuged at 4000 r.p.m. for 10 min. and the pellet resuspended in 2 liters of 2x TY containing 100 micrograms/ml ampicillin and 50 micrograms/ml kanamycin and grown overnight. Phage are prepared as described in WO92/01047.

[0995] M13 delta gene III is prepared as follows: M13 delta gene III helper phage does not encode gene III protein, hence the phage(mid) displaying antibody fragments have a greater avidity of binding to antigen. Infectious M13 delta gene III particles are made by growing the helper phage in cells harboring a pUC19 derivative supplying the wild type gene III protein during phage morphogenesis. The culture is incubated for 1 hour at 37 C without shaking and then for a further hour at 37 C with shaking. Cells

were spun down (IEC-Centra 8, 4000 revs/min for 10 min), resuspended in 300 ml 2x TY broth containing 100 micrograms ampicillin/ml and 25 micrograms kanamycin/ml (2x TY-AMP-KAN) and grown overnight, shaking at 37 C. Phage particles are purified and concentrated from the culture medium by two PEG-precipitations (Sambrook et al., 1990), resuspended in 2 ml PBS and passed through a 0.45 micrometer filter (Minisart NML; Sartorius) to give a final concentration of approximately  $10^{13}$  transducing units/ml (ampicillin-resistant clones).

[0996] **Panning the Library.**

[0997] Immunotubes (Nunc) are coated overnight in PBS with 4 ml of either 100 micrograms/ml or 10 micrograms/ml of a polypeptide of the present invention. Tubes are blocked with 2% Marvel-PBS for 2 hours at 37 C and then washed 3 times in PBS. Approximately  $10^{13}$  TU of phage is applied to the tube and incubated for 30 minutes at room temperature tumbling on an over and under turntable and then left to stand for another 1.5 hours. Tubes are washed 10 times with PBS 0.1% Tween-20 and 10 times with PBS. Phage are eluted by adding 1 ml of 100 mM triethylamine and rotating 15 minutes on an under and over turntable after which the solution is immediately neutralized with 0.5 ml of 1.0M Tris-HCl, pH 7.4. Phage are then used to infect 10 ml of mid-log *E. coli* TG1 by incubating eluted phage with bacteria for 30 minutes at 37 C. The *E. coli* are then plated on TYE plates containing 1% glucose and 100 micrograms/ml ampicillin. The resulting bacterial library is then rescued with delta gene 3 helper phage as described above to prepare phage for a subsequent round of selection. This process is then repeated for a total of 4 rounds of affinity purification with tube-washing increased to 20 times with PBS, 0.1% Tween-20 and 20 times with PBS for rounds 3 and 4.

[0998] **Characterization of Binders.**

[0999] Eluted phage from the third and fourth rounds of selection are used to infect *E. coli* HB 2151 and soluble scFv is produced (Marks, et al., 1991) from single colonies for assay. ELISAs are performed with microtiter plates coated with either 10 picograms/ml of the polypeptide of the present invention in 50 mM bicarbonate pH 9.6. Clones positive in ELISA are further characterized by PCR fingerprinting (see e.g., WO92/01047) and then by sequencing.

**EXAMPLE 10: Neutralization of BLyS/BLyS Receptor Interaction with an anti-BLyS Monoclonal Antibody.**

[1000] Monoclonal antibodies were generated against BLyS protein according to the following method. Briefly, mice were given a subcutaneous injection (front part of the dorsum) of 50 micrograms of His-tagged BLyS protein produced by the method of Example 2 in 100 microliters of PBS emulsified in 100 microliters of complete Freunds adjuvant. Three additional subcutaneous injections of 25 micrograms of BLyS in incomplete Freunds adjuvant were given at 2-week intervals. The animals were rested for a month before they received the final intraperitoneal boost of 25 micrograms of BLyS in PBS. Four days later mice were sacrificed and splenocytes taken for fusion.

[1001] The process of "Fusion" was accomplished by fusing splenocytes from one spleen with 2x10E7 P3X63Ag8.653 plasmacytoma cells using PEG 1500 (Boehringer Mannheim), according to the manufacturer's modifications of an earlier described method. (See, Gefter, M.L., et al. *Somatic Cell Genet* 3:231-36 (1977); Boehringer Mannheim, PEG 1500 (Cat.No. 783641), product description.)

[1002] After fusion, the cells were resuspended in 400 ml of HAT medium supplemented with 20% FBS and 4% Hybridoma Supplement (Boehringer Mannheim) and distributed to 96 well plates at a density of 200 microliters per well. At day 7 post-fusion, 100 microliters of medium was aspirated and replaced with 100 microliters of fresh medium. At day 14 post-fusion, the hybridomas were screened for antibody production.

[1003] Hybridoma supernatants were screened by ELISA for binding to BLyS protein immobilized on plates. Plates were coated with BLyS by overnight incubation of 100 microliters per well of BLyS in PBS at a concentration of 2 micrograms per ml. Hybridoma supernatants were diluted 1:10 with PBS were placed in individual wells of BLyS-coated plates and incubated overnight at 4 C. On the following day, the plates were washed 3 times with PBS containing 0.1% Tween-20 and developed using the anti-mouse IgG ABC system (Vector Laboratories). The color development reaction was stopped with the addition of 25 ml/well of 2M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The plates were then read at 450 nm.

[1004] Hybridoma supernatants were checked for Ig isotype using Isostrips. Cloning was done by the method of limiting dilutions on HT medium. About 3x10E6 cells in 0.9 ml of HBSS were injected in pristane-primed mice. After 7-9 days, ascitic fluid was

collected using a 19 g needle. All antibodies were purified by protein G affinity chromatography using the Acta FPLC system (Pharmacia).

[1005] After primary and two consecutive subcutaneous injections, all three mice developed a strong immune response; the serum titer was 10E-7 as assessed by ELISA on BLyS-coated plates.

[1006] In one experiment, using the splenocytes from the positive mouse more than 1000 primary hybridomas were generated. 917 of them were screened for producing anti-BLyS antibody. Screening was performed using 1:1 diluted supernatants in order to detect all positive clones. Of 917 hybridomas screened, 76 were found to be positive and 17 of those were found to be IgG producers. After affinity testing and cloning, 9 of them were chosen for further expansion and purification.

[1007] All purified monoclonal antibodies were able to bind different forms of BLyS (including His-tagged and protein produced from a baculoviral system (see Example 2)) in both Western blot analysis and ELISA. Six of nine clones were also able to bind BLyS on the surface of THP-1 cells. However, none of the antibodies tested were able to capture BLyS from solution.

[1008] High affinity anti-BLyS monoclonal antibodies were generated that recognize BLyS expressed on the cell surface but not in solution can be used for neutralization studies *in vivo* and in monocyte and B cell assays *in vitro*. These antibodies are also useful for sensitive detection of BLyS on Western blots.

[1009] In an independent experiment, using the splenocytes from the positive mouse, more than 1000 primary hybridomas were generated. 729 of the primary hybridomas were then screened for the production of an anti-BLyS antibody. Screening was performed under stringent conditions using 1:10 diluted supernatants in order to pick up only clones of higher affinity. Of 729 hybridomas screened, 23 were positive, including 16 IgM and 7 IgG producers (among the latter, 4 gave a strong IgM background). In this experiment, the isotype distribution of IgG antibodies was biased towards the IgG2 subclasses. Three of seven IgG hybridomas produced antibodies of IgG2a subclass and two produced an antibody of IgG2b subclass, while the remaining two were IgG1 producers.

[1010] Supernatants from all positive hybridomas generated in the second experiment were tested for the ability to inhibit BLyS-mediated proliferation of B cells. In the first screening experiment, two hybridomas producing IgG-neutralizing antibodies were

detected (these are antibodies 16C9 and 12C5). In additional experiments, the IgG-neutralizing activity of the hybridomas (i.e., 16C9 and 12C5) were confirmed and two additional strongly neutralizing supernatants from hybridomas 15C10 and 4A6 were indentified.

[1011] Three clones were subsequently expanded *in vivo* (a single clone, i.e., 15C10, was also expanded in a hollow fiber system), and the antibody purified by affinity chromatography. All three of the clones were able to bind BLyS on the surface of THP-1 cells and were also able to bind (i.e., "capture") BLyS from solution.

[1012] Specifically, experiments were performed using the anti-BLyS monoclonal antibodies described in the second experiment above to determine whether the antibodies neutralize BLyS/BLyS Receptor binding. Briefly, BLyS protein was biotinylated using the EZ-link T NHS-biotin reagent (Pierce, Rockford, IL). Biotinylated BLyS was then used to identify cell surface proteins that bind BLyS. Preliminary experiments demonstrated that BLyS binds to a receptor on B lymphoid cells.

[1013] The inclusion of anti-BLyS antibodies generated in the second experiment described above neutralized binding of BLyS to a BLyS receptor. In a specific embodiment, anti-BLyS antibody 15C10 neutralizes binding of BLyS to a BLyS Receptor.

[1014] Thus, the anti-BLyS monoclonal antibodies generated in the second experiment described above (in particular, antibody 15C10) recognize and bind to both membrane-bound and soluble BLyS protein and neutralize BLyS/BLyS Receptor binding *in vitro*.

***EXAMPLE 11: BLyS induced signalling in B cells***

[1015] Total RNA was prepared from tonsillar B cells unstimulated or stimulated with SAC or SAC plus soluble BLyS (amino acids 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:2, 100ng/mL) for 12 hours. Messenger RNA levels of ERK-1 and PLK was determined by real time quantitaive PCR using ABI 7700 Taqman sequence detector. Amplification primers and probes were designed to span the region from nucleotides 252-332 of the human PLK sequence and nucleotides 373 to 446 of the human ERK-1 mRNA (Genbank accession numbers X75932 and X60188, respectively). For quantitation of RNA, the comparative delta CT method was used (Perkin-Elmer user Bulletin #2 and #4, 1997) using an 18S ribosomal RNA probeas endogenous reference. Expression levels were characterized relative to observed levels in unstimulated B-cells.

**EXAMPLE 12: Rapid and Specific Targeting of Radiolabeled BLyS to Lymphoid Tissues**

[1016] Here, biodistribution studies of radiolabeled BLyS are reported that demonstrate high *in vivo* targeting specificity of BLyS for lymphoid tissues. BLyS was radiolabeled with  $^{125}\text{I}$  and injected intravenously into BALB/c mice. Three doses and 4 timepoints over a 24-hr period were studied. Biodistribution was measured by direct counting of the radioactivity in dissected whole organs or tissues and by whole body quantitative autoradiography (QAR).

[1017] Spleen and lymph nodes showed the highest concentration of radioactivity among the dissected organs and tissues. Three hr after injection of 0.01 mg/kg BLyS, 63% and 23% injected dose (ID)/g were measured in spleen and lymph node, respectively, compared to ~5% for both kidney and liver. As the dose was increased, the %ID/g in spleen and lymph node decreased but was unchanged in liver and kidney, suggesting that targeting to spleen and lymph nodes is mediated by saturable binding. With increasing time, the ratio of the concentration in spleen and lymph node to the concentration in either kidney or liver increased. QAR confirmed the high uptake of radiolabeled BLyS in spleen and lymph nodes at 3 hr, and revealed high uptake in bone marrow, gut-associated lymphoid tissue (GALT) and intestinal contents as well. At 24 hr, spleen, lymph nodes and GALT were still strongly positive for radiolabeled BLyS by QAR whereas liver and kidney no longer had observable levels. A cytotoxic radionuclide coupled to BLyS could irradiate neoplastic B-cells trafficking through or residing in lymphoid tissues. Thus, the rapid and highly specific targeting of radiolabeled BLyS to lymphoid tissues provides a rationale for its application in the treatment of B-cell malignancies.

[1018] It will be clear that the invention may be practiced otherwise than as particularly described in the foregoing description and examples. Numerous modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in light of the above teachings and, therefore, are within the scope of the appended claims.

[1019] The entire disclosure of all publications (including patents, patent applications, journal articles, laboratory manuals, books, or other documents) cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference.

[1020] Further, the Sequence Listing submitted herewith, and the Sequence Listings submitted in copending application Serial Nos. 09/005,874, filed January 12, 1998, US60/036,100, filed January 14, 1997, and PCT/US96/17957, filed October 25, 1996, in both computer and paper forms in each case, are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

***What Is Claimed Is:***

1. A heteromultimeric complex comprising at least a first polypeptide member of the TNF ligand family and a second, different member of the TNF ligand family.
2. The complex of claim 1 that is a heterodimer.
3. The complex of claim 1 that is a heterotrimer.
4. The complex of claim 1 that is a heterotetramer.
5. The complex of claim 3 wherein said first polypeptide member is selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) LT $\alpha$ ;
  - (b) TNF $\alpha$ ;
  - (c) LT $\beta$ ;
  - (d) OX40L;
  - (e) CD40L;
  - (f) FasL;
  - (g) CD70;
  - (h) CD30L;
  - (i) 4-1BBL;
  - (j) TRAIL;
  - (k) RANKL;
  - (l) TWEAK;
  - (m) APRIL;
  - (n) APRIL-SV;
  - (o) BLyS;
  - (p) BLyS-SV;
  - (q) LIGHT;
  - (r) VEGI;
  - (s) VEGI-SV;

- (t) AITRL; and
- (u) EDA.

6. The complex of claim 5 wherein said first polypeptide member is present once in the complex.

7. The complex of claim 5 wherein said first polypeptide member is present twice in the complex.

8. The complex of claim 7 wherein said two first polypeptide members are identical.

9. The complex of claim 8 wherein said first polypeptide members are both full-length proteins.

10. The complex of claim 8 wherein said first polypeptide members are both extracellular portions of proteins.

11. The complex of claim 7 wherein said two first polypeptide members are different in length.

12. The complex of claim 11 wherein one of said two first polypeptide members is a full length protein and the other of said two first polypeptide members is an extracellular portion of a full length protein.

13. The complex of claim 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 wherein said second polypeptide member, which is different from said first polypeptide member, is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) LT $\alpha$ ;
- (b) TNF $\alpha$ ;
- (c) LT $\beta$ ;
- (d) OX40L;
- (e) CD40L;

- (f) FasL;
- (g) CD70;
- (h) CD30L;
- (i) 4-1BBL;
- (j) TRAIL;
- (k) RANKL;
- (l) TWEAK;
- (m) APRIL;
- (n) APRIL-SV;
- (o) BLyS;
- (p) BLyS-SV;
- (q) LIGHT;
- (r) VEGI;
- (s) VEGI-SV;
- (t) AITRL; and
- (u) EDA.

14. The complex of claim 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 wherein said second polypeptide is present twice in the complex.

15. The complex of claim 14 wherein said two second polypeptide members are identical.

16. The complex of claim 15 wherein said second polypeptide members are both full-length proteins.

17. The complex of claim 15 wherein said second polypeptide members are both extracellular portions of proteins.

18. The complex of claim 14 wherein said two first polypeptide members are different in length.

19. The complex of claim 11 wherein one of said two first polypeptide members is a full length protein and the other of said two first polypeptide members is an extracellular portion of a full length protein.

20. The complex of claim 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, wherein said second polypeptide member is present once in the complex.

21. The complex of claim 20 wherein said second polypeptide member is a full-length protein.

22. The complex of claim 20 wherein said second polypeptide member is an extracellular portion of a full length protein.

23. The complex of claim 20, 21, or 22 wherein said second polypeptide member, which is different from said first polypeptide member, is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) LT $\alpha$ ;
- (b) TNF $\alpha$ ;
- (c) LT $\beta$ ;
- (d) OX40L;
- (e) CD40L;
- (f) FasL;
- (g) CD70;
- (h) CD30L;
- (i) 4-1BBL;
- (j) TRAIL;
- (k) RANKL;
- (l) TWEAK;
- (m) APRIL;
- (n) APRIL-SV;
- (o) BLyS;
- (p) BLyS-SV;
- (q) LIGHT;

- (r) VEGI;
- (s) VEGI-SV;
- (t) AITRL; and
- (u) EDA.

24. The complex of claim 6 wherein said second polypeptide member is present once in the complex.

25. The complex of claim 24 comprising a third polypeptide member of the TNF ligand family which is different than said first and second polypeptide members.

26. The complex of claim 25 wherein said third polypeptide member, which is different from said first and second polypeptide members, is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) LT $\alpha$ ;
- (b) TNF $\alpha$ ;
- (c) LT $\beta$ ;
- (d) OX40L;
- (e) CD40L;
- (f) FasL;
- (g) CD70;
- (h) CD30L;
- (i) 4-1BBL;
- (j) TRAIL;
- (k) RANKL;
- (l) TWEAK;
- (m) APRIL;
- (n) APRIL-SV;
- (o) BLyS;
- (p) BLyS-SV;
- (q) LIGHT;
- (r) VEGI;
- (s) VEGI-SV;

- (t) AITRL; and
- (u) EDA.

27. The complex of claim 25 or 26 wherein said third polypeptide member is a full length protein.
28. The complex of claim 25 or 26 wherein said third polypeptide member is an extracellular portion of a full-length protein.
29. The complex of claim 10, 12, 17, 19, 25 or 26 comprising one or more of the extracellular portions set forth in Table 1, column 6.
30. The complex of any one of the preceding claims wherein one or more of the polypeptide members is fused to a heterologous protein.
31. The complex of claim 30 wherein the heterologous protein is human serum albumin.
32. An antibody or antibody fragment that specifically binds to the complex of anyone of the preceding claims.
33. The antibody or antibody fragment of claim 32 that binds to an epitope contained in one polypeptide chain of first polypeptide member.
34. The antibody or antibody fragment that binds the complex of claim 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment binds to an epitope composed of portions of two polypeptide chains of first polypeptide member.
35. The antibody or antibody fragment of claim 33 that binds to an epitope composed of portions of both said first and said second polypeptide members.

36. An antibody or antibody fragment that specifically binds to the complex of claim 25, or 26, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment binds to an epitope contained in one polypeptide chain of said first polypeptide member.
37. An antibody or antibody fragment that specifically binds to the complex of claim 25, or 26, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment binds to an epitope composed of portions of two polypeptide chains of said first polypeptide member.
38. An antibody or antibody fragment that specifically binds to the complex of claim 25, or 26, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment binds to an epitope composed of portions of one polypeptide chain of said first polypeptide member and one polypeptide chain of said second polypeptide member.
39. An antibody or antibody fragment that specifically binds to the complex of claim 25, or 26, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment binds to an epitope composed of portions of each of said first, second and third polypeptide members.
40. A method of inhibiting cancer cell proliferation in an individual, comprising administering to the individual having cancer a composition comprising the complex of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, wherein said first polypeptide member is TRAIL, and said second polypeptide member is selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) CD40L; and
  - (b) RANKL.
41. A method of increasing B cell proliferation or activity in an individual, comprising administering to the individual having an immunodeficiency a composition comprising the complex of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, wherein said first polypeptide member is BLyS, and said second polypeptide member is APRIL.
42. A method of inducing apoptosis of T cells in an individual, comprising administering to said individual a composition comprising the complex of claim 1, 2, 3,

4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, wherein said first polypeptide member is FasL and said second polypeptide member is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) LIGHT;
- (b) TNF $\alpha$ ;
- (c) LT $\beta$ ; and
- (d) TRAIL.

43. The method of claim 42, wherein the individual is being treated for lymphoma.

44. The method of claim 42, wherein the individual is being treated for an autoimmune disease.

45. A method of treating autoimmune disease comprising administering to an individual having an autoimmune disease the antibody of claim 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, or 39, wherein said first polypeptide member is BLyS and said second polypeptide member is APRIL.

46. A method of treating osteoporosis comprising administering to an individual having an osteoporosis the antibody of claim 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, or 39, wherein said first polypeptide member is RANKL and said second polypeptide member is TRAIL.

Neutrokinin- $\alpha$ 

1 AAATTCAAGGATAACTCTCCTGAGGGGTGAGCCAAGCCCTGCCATGTAGTGCACGCAGGAC 60

61 ATCAACAAACACAGATAACAGGAAATGATCCATTCCCTGTGGTCACTTATTCTAAAGGCC 120

121 CCAACCTTCAAAGTTCAAGTAGTGATATGGATGACTCCACAGAAAGGGAGCAGTCACGCC 180  
1 M D D S T E R E Q S R L 12

181 TTACTTCTGCCTTAAGAAAAGAGAAGAAAATGA~~A~~ACTGAAGGAGTGTGTTCCATCCTCC 240  
13 T S C L K K R E E M K L K E C V S I L P 32  
CD-I

241 CACGGAAGGAAAGCCCCCTGTCCGATCCTCCAAAGACGGAAAGCTGCTGGCTGCAACCT 300  
33 R K E S P S V R S S K D G K L L A A T L 52  
CD-I

301 TGCTGCTGGCACTGCTGTCTGCTGCCTCACGGTGGTGTCTTCTACCAGGTGGCCGCC 360  
53 L L A L L S C C L T V V S F Y Q V A A L 72

361 TGCAAGGGACCTGGCCAGCCTCCGGCAGAGCTGCAGGGCCACCACGCCGGAGAACGCTGC 420  
73 O G D L A S L R A E L Q G H H A E K L P 92  
CD-II

421 CAGCAGGAGCAGGAGCCCCAAGGCCGGCTGGAGGAAGCTCCAGCTGTCACCGCGGGAC 480  
93 A G A G A P K A G L E E A P A V T A G L 112  
CD-III

#

481 TGAAAATCTTGAACCACCAAGCTCCAGGAGAACAGCTCAGTCAGAACAGCAGAAATA 540  
113 K I F E P P A P G E G N S S Q N S R N K 132

541 AGCGTGCCGTTCAAGGGTCCAGAACAGTCAGTCAGACTGCTTGCAACTGATTGCAG 600  
133 R A V Q G P E E T V T Q D C L Q L I A D 152  
CD-IV

FIG.1A

### Neurokinin- $\alpha$

601	ACAGTGAAACACCAACTATACAAAAAGGATCTTACACATTGTTCCATGGCTTCAGCT	660
153	S E T P T I Q K G S Y T F V P W L L S F	172
		CD-V
661	TTAAAAGGGGAAGTGCCCTAGAAGAAAAAGAGAATAAAATATTGGTCAAAGAAACTGGT	720
173	K R G S A L E E K E N K I L V K E T G Y	192
	CD-V	CD-VI
721	ACTTTTTATATATGGTCAGGTTTATATACTGATAAGACCTACGCCATGGGACATCTAA	780
193	F F I Y G O V L Y T D K T Y A M G H L I	212
	CD-VI	CD-VII
781	TTCAGAGGAAGAAGGTCCATGTCCTGGGGATGAATTGAGTCTGGTACTTTGTTCGAT	840
213	Q R K K V H V F G D E L S L V T L F R C	232
	CD-VII	CD-VIII
841	#	
233	GTATTCAAAATATGCCTGAAACACTACCCAATAATTCTGCTATTAGCTGGCATTGCAA	900
	I Q N M P E T L P N N S C Y S A G I A K	252
	CD-VIII	CD-IX
901	CD-X	
253	AACTGGAAGAAGGAGATGAACCTCAACTTGCATAACCAAGAGAAAATGCACAAATATCAC	960
	L E E G D E L O L A I P R E N A Q I S L	272
	CD-X	
961	CD-XI	
273	TGGATGGAGATGTCACATTTGGTGCATTGAAACTGCTGTGACCTACTTACACCATGT	1020
	D G D V T F F G A L K L	285
1021	CTGTAGCTATTTCTCCCTTCTGTACCTCTAAGAAGAAAGAATCTAACTGAAAATA	1080
1081	CCAAAAAAAAAAAAAA 1100	

FIG. 1B

FIG. 2A

38	F	-	I V A G A T T L F C I L H F G V I G P Q R E E F P R						120
31	G A Q G	I P G V	G L						TNFalpha
32	L L L A V P I T	V V L A V L A	V P Q D Q G G L V T E T A D P						TNFbeta
90	V V V A E K L P A	A V G L G L	F H L Q K E L A E L R E S T S						Ltbeta
88	A E K L P A	A G A G A P K A G L E E A P A V T	A G L K I F E P						FasLigand
88	A E K L P A	A G A G A P K A G L E E A P A V T	A G L K I F E P						Neurokine alpha
									Neurokine alphaSV
66	D L S L I S	- P I A - Q A V R S S S R T P S D - - K P V A							TNFalpha
41	- T P S	- A A Q - T A R Q P K M H L A H S T L K P A A							TNFbeta
62	G A Q A Q Q	- G U L P E E E P E T D L S P G L P A A							Ltbeta
120	Q M H T A S	- S L E - K Q I G H P S P P P E K K E L R K V A							FasLigand
118	P A P G E G N S S	S O N S R N K R A V Q G P E E T V T Q D C L							Neurokine alpha
118	P A P G E G N S S	S O N S R N K R A V Q G P E E T							Neurokine alphaSV
91	H V V A N P	P Q A E G - Q - - - Q W L N R R A N A L L							TNFalpha
66	H L I G D P	S K Q N - S - - - L W R A N T D R A F L							TNFbeta
91	H L I G A P	P L K - Q G - - - L G W E T J K E Q A F L							Ltbeta
148	H L T G K S	N S R S M P - - - L E W E D J Y G I V L L							FasLigand
148	Q L T A D	S E T P T I Q K G S Y T F V P W L							Neurokine alpha
142									Neurokine alphaSV

EIG 2B

11114	A N G V E I R D N - Q L V V P S E G L Y L I Y S Q V L F K G	210	TNFalpha	TNFbeta	Ltbeta	FasLigand	Neurokine alpha
11115	Q D G F S L S N N - S L L U P T S G I Y F V Y S Q V Y F S G	220	TNFalpha	TNFbeta	Ltbeta	FasLigand	Neurokine alpha
11116	T S G T Q F S D A E G L A L P Q D G L Y Y L Y C L V G Y R G	230	TNFalpha	TNFbeta	Ltbeta	FasLigand	Neurokine alpha
11117	- S G V K Y K R G V I N E T G L V F V Y S K V Y F R G	240	TNFalpha	TNFbeta	Ltbeta	FasLigand	Neurokine alpha
11118	R G S A L E E K E N K I L V K E T G Y F F I Y G Q V I Y J D	250	TNFalpha	TNFbeta	Ltbeta	FasLigand	Neurokine alpha
11119	R G S A L E E K E N K I L V K E T G Y F F I Y G Q V I Y J D	260	TNFalpha	TNFbeta	Ltbeta	FasLigand	Neurokine alpha
11120	R G S A L E E K E N K I L V K E T G Y F F I Y G Q V I Y J D	270	TNFalpha	TNFbeta	Ltbeta	FasLigand	Neurokine alpha
11121	R G C P - - - S T H V L T H T I S R I A V S Y Q T K						
11122	K A Y S P - - - K A T T S S P D Y L A H E V Q L F S Q Y P F H						
11123	R A P P G G D P Q G R S V T L R S S L Y R A G A Y G P G						
11124	Q S C N - - - - N L P L S H K V Y M R N S K Y P Q D						
11125	R T Y A M G - - - H L I Q R K V H V F G D E L S - -						
11126	R T Y A M G - - - H L I Q R K V H V F G D E L S - -						
11127	V N - - - L L S A I K S P C Q R E T P E - - G A E A K P W Y E						
11128	V P - - - L L S S Q K M V Y P - - - G L Q E P W L H						
11129	T P E L L L E G A E T V T P V L D P A R R Q G Y G P L N Y T						
11130	L V - - - H M E G K M M S Y C - - - T T G Q M M A R - -						
11131	L V T F R C I Q N N P E T L P N - - - - - - - - - - - -						
11132	L V T F R C I Q N N P E T L P N - - - - - - - - - - - -						
11133	1167 V N - - - L L S A I K S P C Q R E T P E - - G A E A K P W Y E						
1146	1146 V P - - - L L S S Q K M V Y P - - - G L Q E P W L H						
1174	1174 T P E L L L E G A E T V T P V L D P A R R Q G Y G P L N Y T						
2222	2222 L V - - - H M E G K M M S Y C - - - T T G Q M M A R - -						
2226	2226 L V T F R C I Q N N P E T L P N - - - - - - - - - - - -						
2207	2207 L V T F R C I Q N N P E T L P N - - - - - - - - - - - -						

FIG. 2C

	280	290	300	
193	P I Y L G G V F Q L E K G D R L S A E I N R P D Y L D F A E		TNFalpha	
166	S M Y H G A A F Q I T Q G D Q L S T H T D G I P H L V L S P		TNFbeta	
204	S V G F G G L V Q I R R G E R V Y V N I S H P D M V D F A R		Ltbeta	
242	S S Y L G A V F N L T S A D H E T Q L N V S E L S L V N F E E		FasLigand	
244	S C Y S A G I A K L E E G D E L Q L A I P R E N A Q I S L Q		Neutrokinne alpha	
225	S C Y S A G I A K L E E G D E L Q L A I P R E N A Q I S L Q		Neutrokinne alphaSV	
		310		
223	S G Q V Y F G I I A V M V G		TNFalpha	
196	S - T V F F G A F A L		TNFbeta	
234	- G K T F F G A V M V G		Ltbeta	
272	S - Q T F F G L Y K I L		FasLigand	
274	G D V T F F G A L K I L		Neutrokinne alpha	
255	G D V T F F G A L K I L		Neutrokinne alphaSV	

FIG. 2D

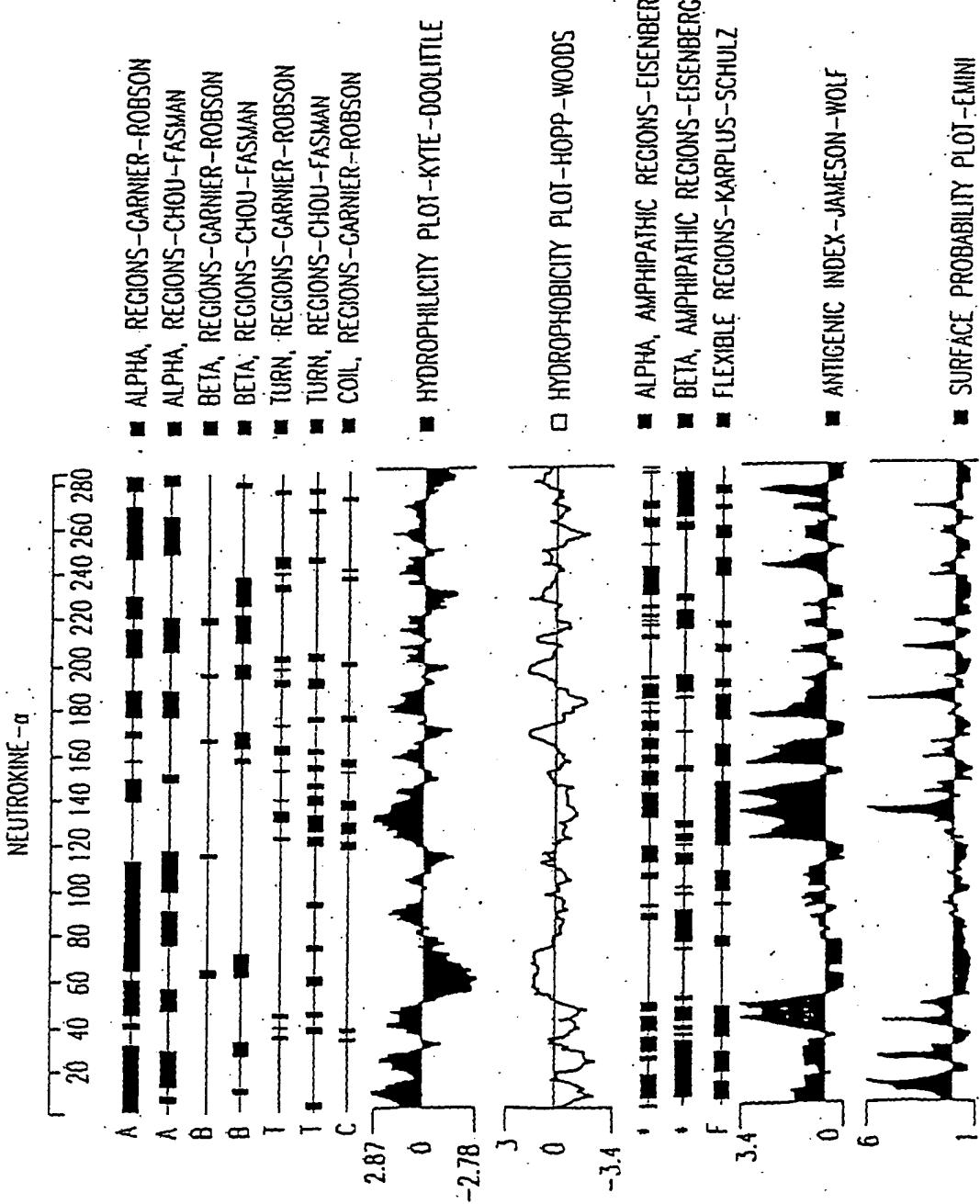


FIG. 3

1

50

HSOAD55R ..... A GGNTAACTCT CCTGAGGGGT GAGCCAAGCC CTGCCATGTA  
 HNEDU15X ... AAATTCA GGATAACTCT CCTGAGGGGT GAGCCAAGCC CTGCCATGTA  
 HSLAH84R .. AATTGGCA NAGNAAACTG GTTACTTTT TATATATGGT CAGGTTTTAT  
 HLTBM08R AATTGGCAC GAGCAAGGCC GGCTGGAGG AAGCTCCAGC TGTCACCGCG

51

100

HSOAD55R GTGCACGCAG GACATCANCA A..ACACANN NNNCAGGAAA TAATCCATTC  
 HNEDU15X GTGCACGCAG GACATCAACA A..ACACAGA TAACAGGAAA TGATCCATTC  
 HSLAH84R ATACTGATAA GACCTACGCC ATGGGACATC TAGTTCAGAG GAAGAAGGTC  
 HLTBM08R GGACTGAAAA TCTTGAAACC ACCAGCTCCA GGAGAAGGCA ACTCCAGTCA

101

150

HSOAD55R CCTGTGGTCA CTTATTCTAA AGGCCCAAC CTTCAAAGTT CAAGTAGTGA  
 HNEDU15X CCTGTGGTCA CTTATTCTAA AGGCCCAAC CTTCAAAGTT CAAGTAGTGA  
 HSLAH84R CATGTCTTTG GGGATGAATT GAGTCTGGTG ACTTTGTTTC GATGTATTCA  
 HLTBM08R GAACAGCAGA AATAAGCGTG CCGTTAGGG TCCAGAAGAA ACAGTCACTC

151

200

HSOAD55R TATGGATGAC TCCACAGAAA GGGAGCAGTC ACGCCTTA TCTTGCCTTA  
 HNEDU15X TATGGATGAC TCCACAGAAA GGGAGCAGTC ACGCCTTA TCTTGCCTTA  
 HSLAH84R AAATATGCCT GAAACACTAC CCAATAATTCA CTGCTATTCA GCTGGCATTG  
 HLTBM08R AAGACTGCTT GCAACTGNNT GCAGACAGTG AAACACCAAC TATACAAAAA

201

250

HSOAD55R AGAAAAGAGA AGAAATGAAA CTGNAAGGAG TGTGTTCCA TCCTCCCACG  
 HNEDU15X AGAAAAGAGA AGAAATGAAA CT.GAAGGAG TGTGTTCCA TCCTCCCACG  
 HSLAH84R CAAAAGTGGN AGGAAGGA... .GATGAAC TCCAACTTGC AATACCAGGG  
 HLTBM08R GGCTCCCTTC TGNTGCCACA TTTGGGCCAA GGAATGGAGA GATTCTTCG

251

300

HSOAD55R GAAGGAAAGC CCCTCTNTCC GATCCTCCAA AGACGGAAAG CTGCTGGCTG  
 HNEDU15X GAAGGAAAGC CCCTCTGTCC GATCCTCCAA AGACGGAAAG CTGCTGGCTG  
 HSLAH84R GAAAATGCAC AATTATCACT GGGATGGAGA TGTTACATT TTTGGGTGC  
 HLTBM08R TCTGGAAACA TTTGCCAAA CTCTTCAGAT ACTCTTNCT CTCTGGGAAT

301

350

HSOAD55R CAACCTTGNT GNTGGCATTG TGTCTTGCT GNCTCAAGGT GGTGTTNTT.  
 HNEDU15X CAACCTTGCT GCTGGCACTG CTGTCTTGCT GCCTCACGGT GGTGTCTTT  
 HSLAH84R CATTGAAACT GCTGTGACCT NCTTACANCA NGTGTGTTN GCTATTTNC  
 HLTBM08R CAAAGGAAAA TCTCTACTTA GATNNACACA TTTGTTCCCA TGGGTNTCTT

351

400

HSOAD55R .....  
 HNEDU15X TACCAAGGTGG CGGCCCTGCA AGGGGACCTG GCCAGCCTCC GGGCAGAGCT  
 HSLAH84R CTNCCTNTTC TNTGGTAACC TCTTAGGAAG GAAGGATTCT TAACTGGGAA  
 HLTBM08R AAGTTTAAA AGGGGAGTGC CCTTAGGAGG AAAAGGGGAT AAATATTGGC

FIG.4A

	401	450
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	GCAGGGCCAC CACGCGGAGA AGCTGCCAGC AGGAGCAGGA GCCCCCAAGG	
HSLAH84R	ATAACCCAAA AAAANNTAA ANGGGTANGN GNNANANGNG GGGNNGTTNN	
HTLBM08R	CAAGGNACTG GTTANTTTNT AAATATGGTC AGGTTNTAT ANCTGGTAGG	
	451	500
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	CCGGCCTGGA GGAAGCTCCA GCTGTACCCG CGGGACTGAA AATCTTGAA	
HSLAH84R	CNNGNNGNT TTTNGGNNTA TTTNTNNNTN GGGNNNNNTA AAAATGGGC	
HTLBM08R	CCTCGCCATG GGCATTNATT CANGGNGAGG NCNNTCTTTT GGGNTGA...	
	501	550
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	CCACCAAGCTC CAGGAGAAGG CAACTCCAGT CAGAACAGCA GAAATAAGCG	
HSLAH84R	CNANGGGGGN TTTTT.....	
HTLBM08R	.....	
	551	600
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	TGCCGTTCAAG GGTCCAGAAG AAACAGTCAC TCAAGACTGC TTGCAACTGA	
HSLAH84R	.....	
HTLBM08R	.....	
	601	650
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	TTGCAGACAG TGAAACACCA ACTATACAAA AAGGATCTTA CACATTGTT	
HSLAH84R	.....	
HTLBM08R	.....	
	651	700
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	CCATGGCTTC TCAGCTTAA AAGGGGAAGT GCCCTAGAAG AAAAAGAGAA	
HSLAH84R	.....	
HTLBM08R	.....	
	701	750
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	TAAAATATTG GTCAAAGAAA CTGGTTACTT TTTTATATAT GGTCAAGGTTT	
HSLAH84R	.....	
HTLBM08R	.....	
	751	800
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	TATATACTGA TAAGACCTAC GCCATGGGAC ATCTAATTCA GAGGAAGAAG	
HSLAH84R	.....	
HTLBM08R	.....	

FIG.4B

	801	850
HSOAD55R	.....	.....
HNEDU15X	GTCCATGTCT TTGGGGATGA ATTGAGTCTG GTGACTTTGT TTCGATGTAT	
HSLAH84R	.....	.....
HLTBM08R	.....	.....
	851	900
HSOAD55R	.....	.....
HNEDU15X	TCAAAATATG CCTGAAACAC TACCCAATAA TTCCCTGCTAT TCAGCTGGCA	
HSLAH84R	.....	.....
HLTBM08R	.....	.....
	901	950
HSOAD55R	.....	.....
HNEDU15X	TTGCAAAACT GGAAGAAGGA GATGAACCTCC AACTTGCAAT ACCAAGAGAA	
HSLAH84R	.....	.....
HLTBM08R	.....	.....
	951	1000
HSOAD55R	.....	.....
HNEDU15X	AATGCACAAA TATCACTGGA TGGAGATGTC ACATTTTTG GTGCATTGAA	
HSLAH84R	.....	.....
HLTBM08R	.....	.....
	1001	1050
HSOAD55R	.....	.....
HNEDU15X	ACTGCTGTGA CCTACTTACA CCATGTCTGT AGCTATTTTC CTCCCTTCT	
HSLAH84R	.....	.....
HLTBM08R	.....	.....
	1051	1100
HSOAD55R	.....	.....
HNEDU15X	CTGTACCTCT AAGAAGAAAG AATCTAACTG AAAATACCAA AAAAAAAA	
HSLAH84R	.....	.....
HLTBM08R	.....	.....
	1101	
HSOAD55R	.....	
HNEDU15X	AAAAAA	
HSLAH84R	.....	
HLTBM08R	.....	

FIG.4C

Neutrokinin- $\alpha$ SV

1 ATGGATGACTCCACAGAAAGGGAGCAGTCACGCCCTACTTCTTGCCCTAAGAAAAGAGAA 60  
 1 M D D S T E R E Q S R L T S C L K K R E 20

61 GAAATGAAACTGAAGGAGTGTGTTCCATCCTCCCACGGAAGGAAAGCCCCTGTCCGA 120  
 21 E M K L K E C V S I L P R K E S P S V R 40  
 CD-I

121 TCCTCCAAAGACGGAAAGCTGCTGGCTGCAACCTTGCTGGCACTGCTGTGCTGC 180  
 41 S S K D G K L L A A T L L L A L L S C C 60  
 CD-I

181 CTCACGGTGGTGTCTTCTACCAGGTGGCCGCCCTGCAAGGGGACCTGGCCAGCCTCCGG 240  
 61 L T V V S F Y Q V A A L O G D L A S L R 80  
 CD-II

241 GCAGAGCTGCAGGGCCACCA CGCGGAGAAGCTGCCAGCAGGAGCAGGAGCCCCAAGGCC 300  
 81 A E L Q G H H A E K L P A G A G A P K A 100  
 CD-II CD-III

301 GGCTGGAGGAAGCTCCAGCTGTCAACCGCGGGACTGAAAATCTTGAACCACCAAGCTCCA 360  
 101 G L E E A P A V T A G L K I F E P P A P 120  
 CD-III  
 #

361 GGAGAAGGCAACTCCAGTCAGAACAGCAGAAATAAGCGTGCCTTCAGGGTCCAGAAGAA 420  
 121 G E G N S S Q N S R N K R A V Q G P E E 140

421 ACAGGATCTTACACATTGTTCCATGGCTCTCAGCTTAAAAGGGGAAGTGCCCTAGAA 480  
 141 T G S Y T F V P W L L S F K R G S A L E 160  
 CD-IV

481 GAAAAAGAGAATAAAATATTGGTCAAAGAAACTGGTTACTTTTTATATATGGTCAGGTT 540  
 161 E K E N K I L V K E T G Y F F I Y G Q V 180  
 CD-IV CD-V

541 TTATATACTGATAAGACCTACGCCATGGACATCTAATTAGAGGAAGGTCATGTC 600  
 181 L Y T D K T Y A M G H L I Q R K K V H V 200  
 CD-VI CD-VII

FIG.5A

Neutrokinin- $\alpha$ SV

601 TTTGGGGATGAATTGAGTCTGGTACTTTGTTCGATGTATTCAAAATATGCCTGAAACA 660  
201 F G D E L S L V T L F R C I Q N M P E T 220  
CD-VIII CD-VIII

661 CTACCCAATAATT CCTGCTATT CAGCTGGCATTGCAAAACTGGAAGAAGGAGATGAACTC 720  
221 L P N N S C Y S A G I A K L E E G D E L 240  
CD-IX CD-X

721 CAACTTGCAATACCAAGAGAAAATGCACAAATATCACTGGATGGAGATGTCACATTTTT 780  
241 Q L A I P R E N A Q I S L D G D V T F F 260  
CD-X CD-XI

781 GGTGCATTGAAACTGCTGTGACCTACTTACACCATGTCTGTAGCTATTTCTCCCTTTC 840  
261 G A L K L L 266  
CD-XI

841 TCTGTACCTCTAAGAAGAAAGAATCTAACTGAAAATACCAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA 900  
901 AAA 903

FIG.5B

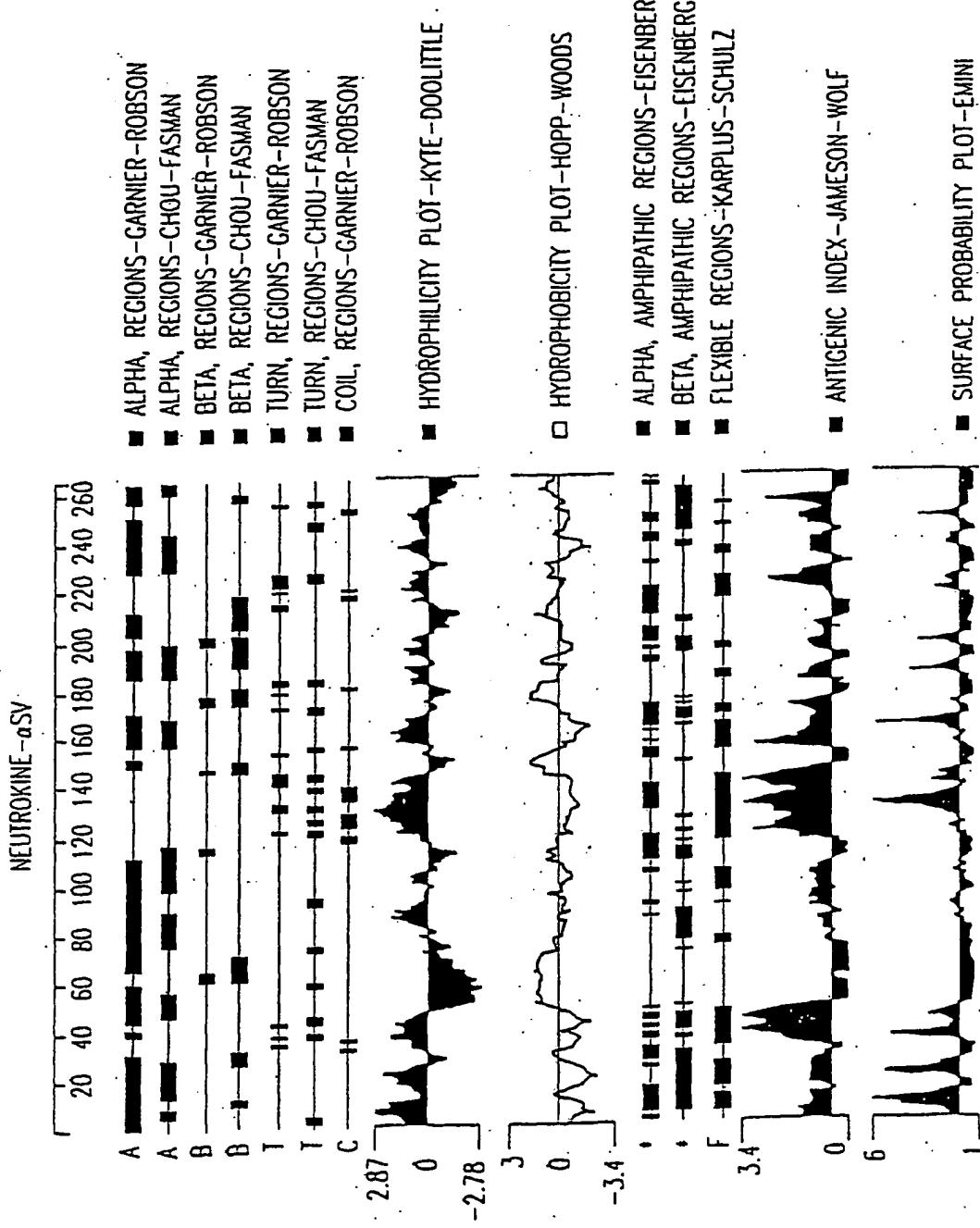


FIG. 6

**Neurokinine-  
Alpha M D D**

Transmembrane Region

SKDGKLLAATLLLSCCLTVVSSFYQVAAALQGDLASLRAE 82  
LQGHHAEKLPAGAGAP.KAGLEEAPEAVTAGLKIFEPAPAGEG 123

FIG. 7A-1

	F	G	H
E	- T L P -	N N S C Y S A G I A K L E E G D E L Q L A I P R E N A	268
S H P D R A -	- - - -	Y N S C Y S A G V F H L H Q G D I L S V I I P R A R A	234
C Q R E T P E G A E A K P W Y E P I V L G G V F Q L E K G D R L S A E I N R P D Y 217	- - - -	Y L H S M Y H G A A F Q L T Q G D Q L S T H T D G I P H 190	
Y P -	- - - -		
Q I S E D G D V T F F G A L K L L			285:
K L N E S P H G T F L G F V K L L			250
D F A E S G Q V Y F G I I A L L			233
V L S - P S T V F F G A F A L L			205

FIG. 7A-2

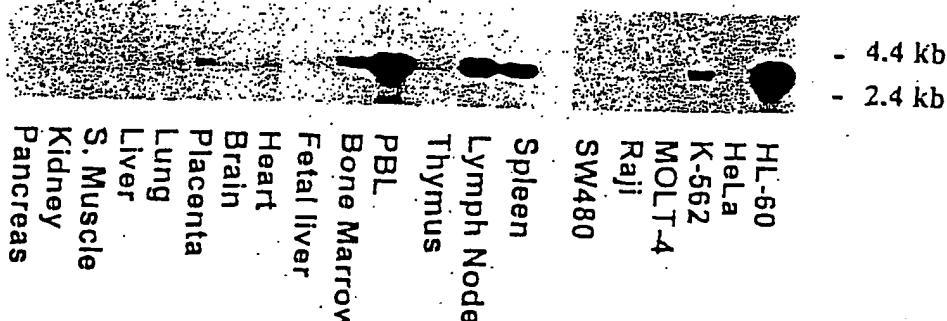


FIG. 7B

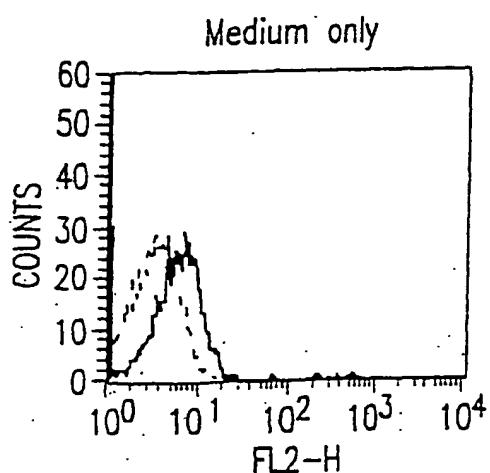


FIG.8A

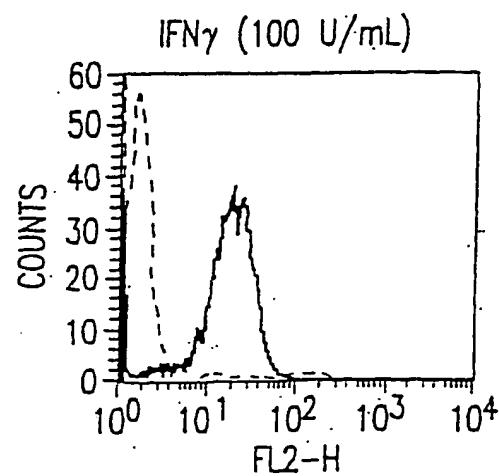


FIG.8B

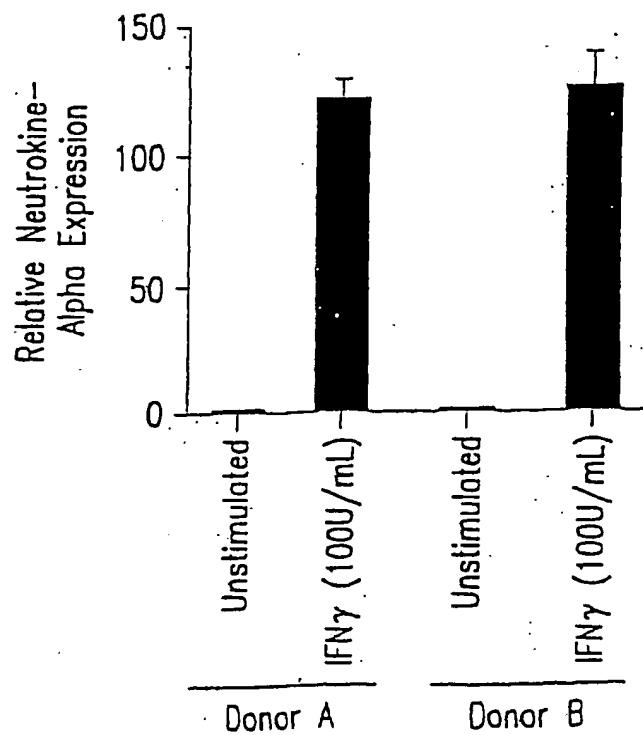


FIG.8C

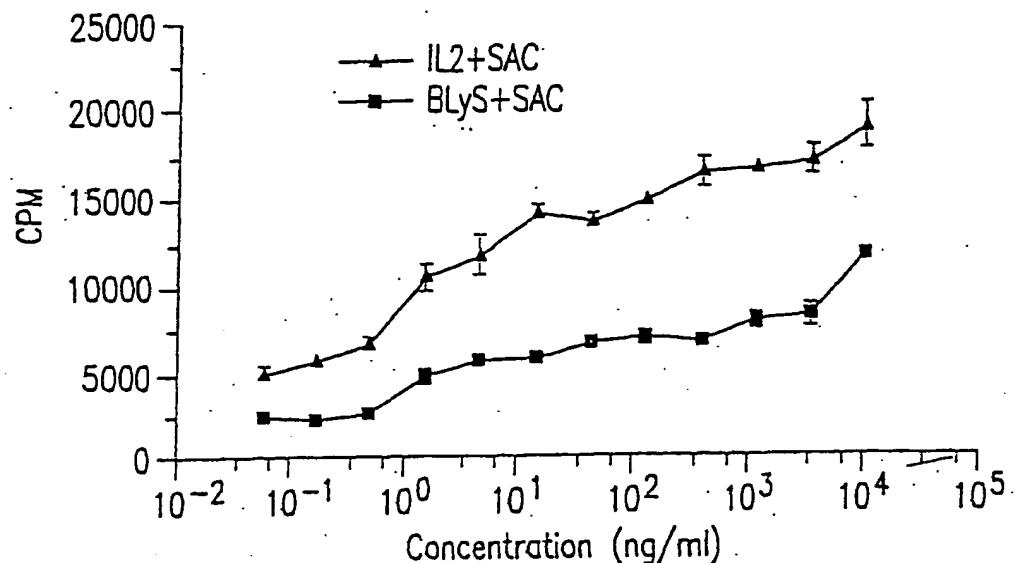


FIG. 9A

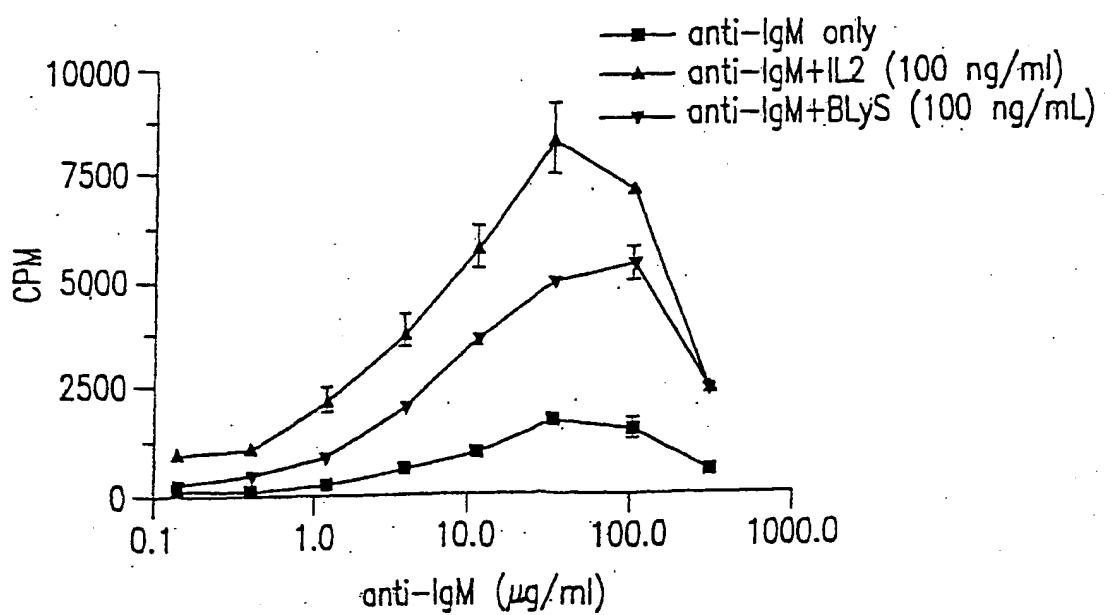


FIG. 9B

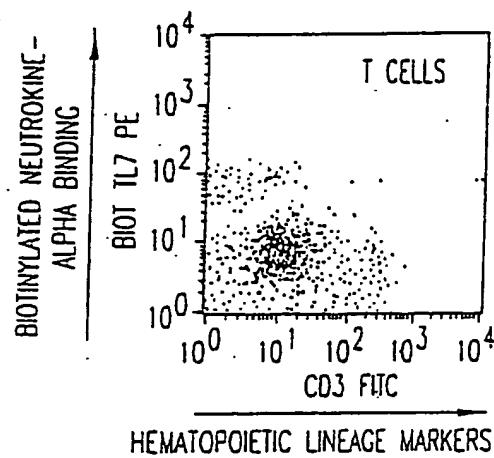


FIG.10A

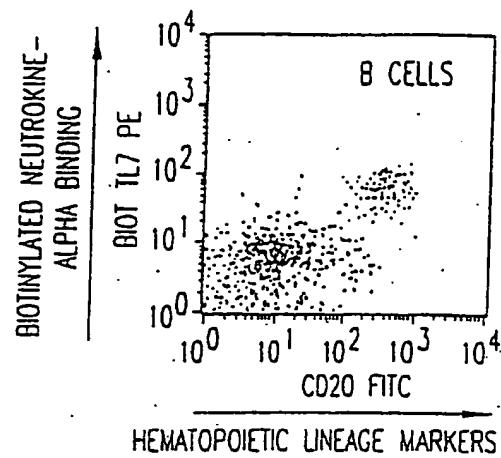


FIG.10B

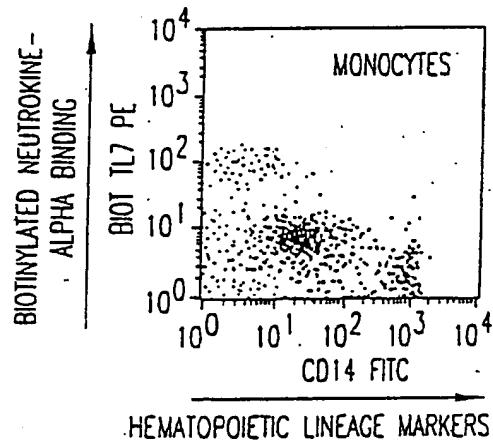


FIG.10C

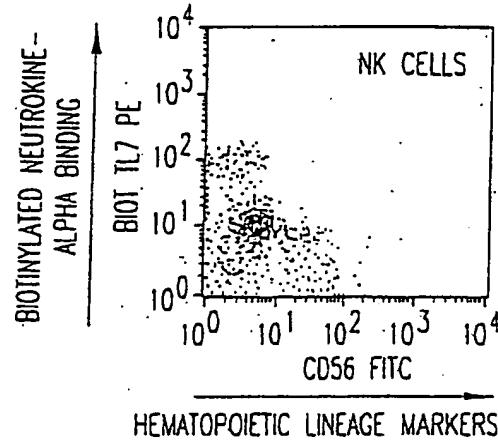


FIG.10D

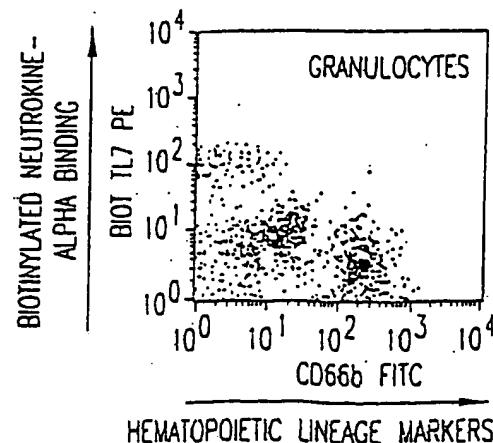


FIG.10E

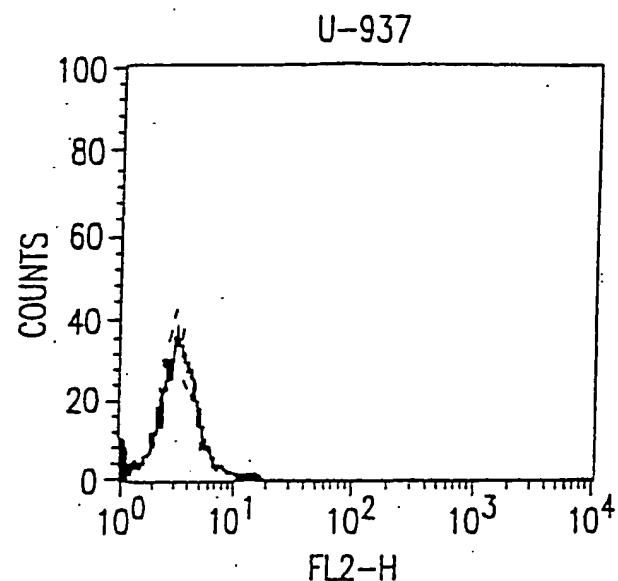


FIG.10F

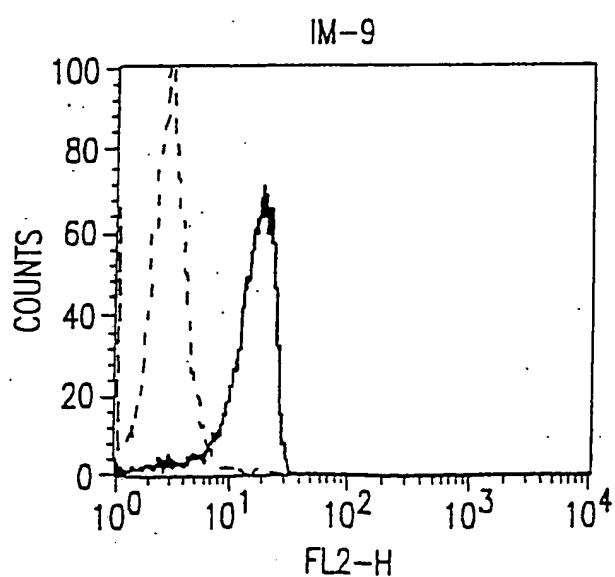


FIG.10G

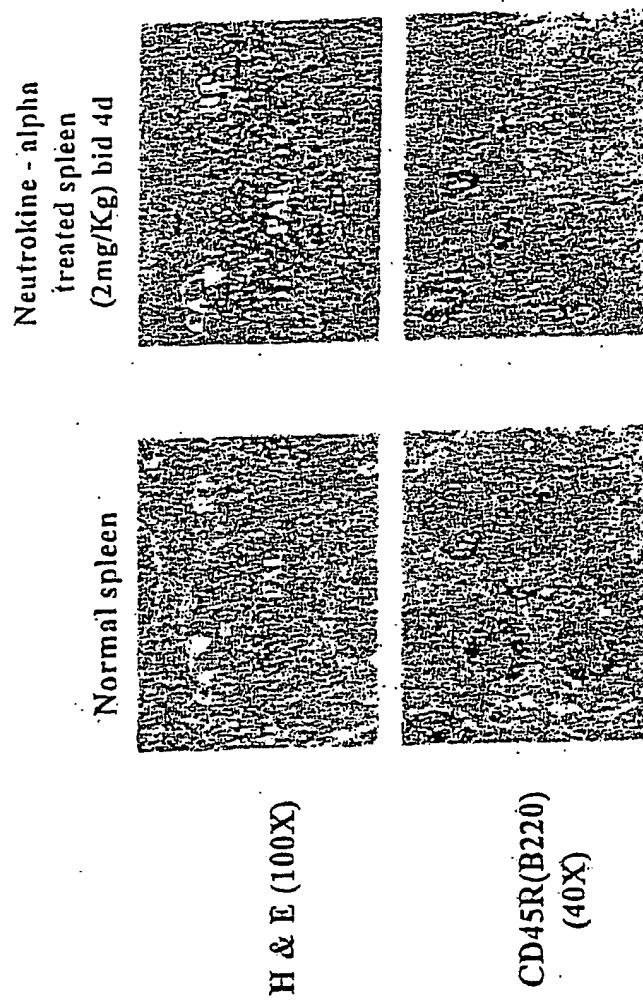


FIG. 11 A

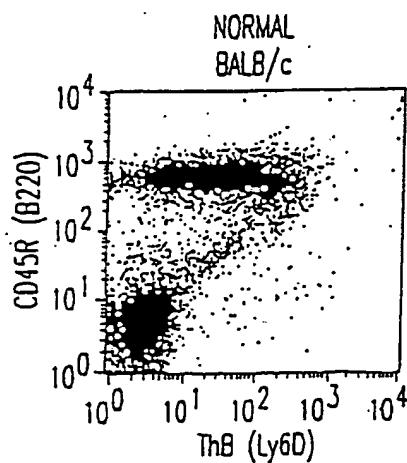


FIG. 11B

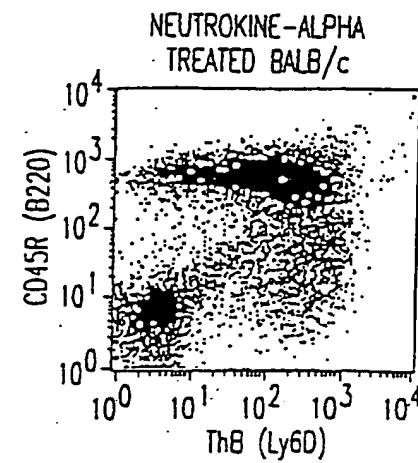


FIG. 11C

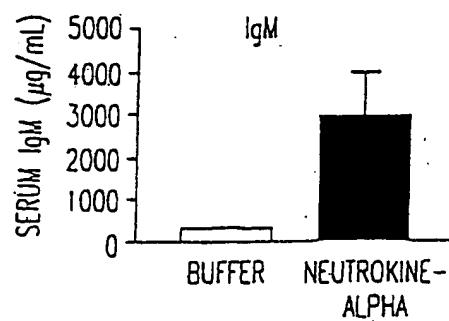


FIG. 11D

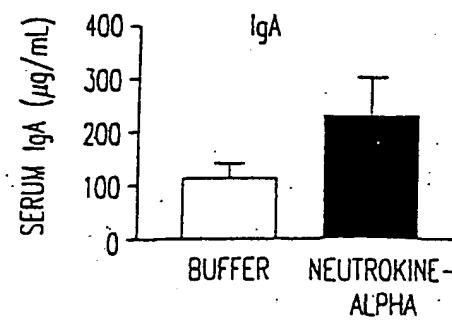


FIG. 11E

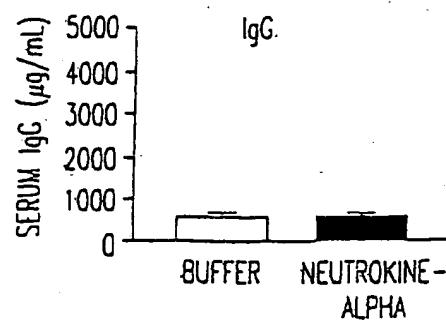


FIG. 11F

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tctga	1325

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Leu His Leu Leu Leu Leu Gly Leu Leu Leu Val Leu Leu Pro Gly Ala																																																																											
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30																																																																											
Gln Gly Leu Pro Gly Val Gly Leu Thr Pro Ser Ala Ala Gln Thr Ala																																																																											
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Ala His Leu Ile Gly Asp Pro Ser Lys Gln Asn Ser Leu Leu Trp Arg																																																																											
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75	80																																																																										
Ala Asn Thr Asp Arg Ala Phe Leu Gln Asp Gly Phe Ser Leu Ser Asn																																																																											
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Leu Tyr Leu Ala His Glu Val Gln Leu Phe Ser Ser Gln Tyr Pro Phe																																																																											
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His Val Pro Leu Leu Ser Ser Gln Lys Met Val Tyr Pro Gly Leu Gln																																																																											
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Gln Gly Asp Gln Leu Ser Thr His Thr Asp Gly Ile Pro His Leu Val																																																																											
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<400> 8

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Pro Arg Phe Glu Arg Asn Lys Leu Leu Leu Val Ala Ser Val Ile Gln  
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Gly Leu Gly Leu Leu Leu Cys Phe Thr Tyr Ile Cys Leu His Phe Ser  
35 40 45

Ala Leu Gln Val Ser His Arg Tyr Pro Arg Ile Gln Ser Ile Lys Val  
50 55 60

Gln Phe Thr Glu Tyr Lys Lys Glu Lys Gly Phe Ile Leu Thr Ser Gln  
65 70 75 80

Lys Glu Asp Glu Ile Met Lys Val Gln Asn Asn Ser Val Ile Ile Asn  
85 90 95

Cys Asp Gly Phe Tyr Leu Ile Ser Leu Lys Gly Tyr Phe Ser Gln Glu  
100 105 110

Val Asn Ile Ser Leu His Tyr Gln Lys Asp Glu Glu Pro Leu Phe Gln  
115 120 125

Leu Lys Lys Val Arg Ser Val Asn Ser Leu Met Val Ala Ser Leu Thr  
130 135 140

Tyr Lys Asp Lys Val Tyr Leu Asn Val Thr Thr Asp Asn Thr Ser Leu  
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Asp Asp Phe His Val Asn Gly Gly Glu Leu Ile Leu Ile His Gln Asn  
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Pro Gly Glu Phe Cys Val Leu  
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CCTTGCAGGC TGTGGTGGAG CTGACGCTGG GAGTCTTCAT AATAcAGCAC AGCAGGTTAAG  
cccACCCCT GTTAACtGCC tATTTATAAC CCTAGGATCC TCCttATGGA GAACtATTTA  
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1140

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<210> 10  
 <211> 261  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> human

<400> 10

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1 5 10 15

Leu Pro Ile Ser Met Lys Ile Phe Met Tyr Leu Leu Thr Val Phe Leu  
20 25 30

Ile Thr Gln Met Ile Gly Ser Ala Leu Phe Ala Val Tyr Leu His Arg  
35 40 45

Arg Leu Asp Lys Ile Glu Asp Glu Arg Asn Leu His Glu Asp Phe Val  
50 55 60

Phe Met Lys Thr Ile Gln Arg Cys Asn Thr Gly Glu Arg Ser Leu Ser  
65 70 75 80

Leu Leu Asn Cys Glu Glu Ile Lys Ser Gln Phe Glu Gly Phe Val Lys  
85 90 95

Asp Ile Met Leu Asn Lys Glu Glu Thr Lys Lys Glu Asn Ser Phe Glu  
100 105 110

Met Gln Lys Gly Asp Gln Asn Pro Gln Ile Ala Ala His Val Ile Ser  
115 120 125

Glu Ala Ser Ser Lys Thr Thr Ser Val Leu Gln Trp Ala Glu Lys Gly  
130 135 140

Tyr Tyr Thr Met Ser Asn Asn Leu Val Thr Leu Glu Asn Gly Lys Gln

145	150	155	160
Leu Thr Val Lys Arg Gln Gly Leu Tyr Tyr Ile Tyr Ala Gln Val Thr			
165		170	175
Phe Cys Ser Asn Arg Glu Ala Ser Ser Gln Ala Pro Phe Ile Ala Ser			
180		185	190
Leu Cys Leu Lys Ser Pro Gly Arg Phe Glu Arg Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala			
195		200	205
Ala Asn Thr His Ser Ser Ala Lys Pro Cys Gly Gln Gln Ser Ile His			
210		215	220
Leu Gly Gly Val Phe Glu Leu Gln Pro Gly Ala Ser Val Phe Val Asn			
225		230	235
Val Thr Asp Pro Ser Gln Val Ser His Gly Thr Gly Phe Thr Ser Phe			
245		250	255
Gly Leu Leu Lys Leu			
260			

<210> 11  
 <211> 972  
 <212> DNA  
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<400> 11  
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972

<210> 12  
<211> 281  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

&lt;400&gt; 12

Met Gln Gln Pro Phe Asn Tyr Pro Tyr Pro Gln Ile Tyr Trp Val Asp  
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Ser Ser Ala Ser Ser Pro Trp Ala Pro Pro Gly Thr Val Leu Pro Cys  
20 25 30

Pro Thr Ser Val Pro Arg Arg Pro Gly Gln Arg Arg Pro Pro Pro Pro  
35 40 45

Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Leu Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Leu Pro  
50 55 60

Pro Leu Pro Leu Pro Pro Leu Lys Lys Arg Gly Asn His Ser Thr Gly  
65 70 75 80

Leu Cys Leu Leu Val Met Phe Phe Met Val Leu Val Ala Leu Val Gly  
85 90 95

Leu Gly Leu Gly Met Phe Gln Leu Phe His Leu Gln Lys Glu Leu Ala  
100 105 110

Glu Leu Arg Glu Ser Thr Ser Gln Met His Thr Ala Ser Ser Leu Glu  
115 120 125

Lys Gln Ile Gly His Pro Ser Pro Pro Glu Lys Lys Glu Leu Arg  
130 135 140

Lys Val Ala His Leu Thr Gly Lys Ser Asn Ser Arg Ser Met Pro Leu  
145 150 155 160

Glu Trp Glu Asp Thr Tyr Gly Ile Val Leu Leu Ser Gly Val Lys Tyr  
165 170 175

Lys Lys Gly Gly Leu Val Ile Asn Glu Thr Gly Leu Tyr Phe Val Tyr  
180 185 190

Ser Lys Val Tyr Phe Arg Gly Gln Ser Cys Asn Asn Leu Pro Leu Ser  
195 200 205

His Lys Val Tyr Met Arg Asn Ser Lys Tyr Pro Gln Asp Leu Val Met  
210 215 220

Met Glu Gly Lys Met Met Ser Tyr Cys Thr Thr Gly Gln Met Trp Ala  
225 230 235 240

Arg Ser Ser Tyr Leu Gly Ala Val Phe Asn Leu Thr Ser Ala Asp His  
245 250 255

Leu Tyr Val Asn Val Ser Glu Leu Ser Leu Val Asn Phe Glu Glu Ser

260

265

270

Gln Thr Phe Phe Gly Leu Tyr Lys Leu  
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<210> 13  
<211> 926  
<212> DNA  
<213> human

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<210> 14  
<211> 193  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

&lt;400&gt; 14

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 20                                   25                                           30

Cys Leu Val Val Cys Ile Gln Arg Phe Ala Gln Ala Gln Gln Leu  
 35                                   40                                           45

Pro Leu Glu Ser Leu Gly Trp Asp Val Ala Glu Leu Gln Leu Asn His  
       50                    55                    60

Thr Gly Pro Gln Gln Asp Pro Arg Leu Tyr Trp Gln Gly Gly Pro Ala  
       65                    70                    75                    80

Leu Gly Arg Ser Phe Leu His Gly Pro Glu Leu Asp Lys Gly Gln Leu  
       85                    90                    95

Arg Ile His Arg Asp Gly Ile Tyr Met Val His Ile Gln Val Thr Leu  
       100                   105                   110

Ala Ile Cys Ser Ser Thr Thr Ala Ser Arg His His Pro Thr Thr Leu  
       115                   120                   125

Ala Val Gly Ile Cys Ser Pro Ala Ser Arg Ser Ile Ser Leu Leu Arg  
       130                   135                   140

Leu Ser Phe His Gln Gly Cys Thr Ile Val Ser Gln Arg Leu Thr Pro  
       145                   150                   155                   160

Leu Ala Arg Gly Asp Thr Leu Cys Thr Asn Leu Thr Gly Thr Leu Leu  
       165                   170                   175

Pro Ser Arg Asn Thr Asp Glu Thr Phe Phe Gly Val Gln Trp Val Arg  
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 <212> DNA  
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 ctcatcaaca agcatatcaa aaaacaggcc ctggtgacag tgtgtgagtc tggaaatgcaa 660  
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<210> 16  
 <211> 234  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> human

<400> 16

Met Asp Pro Gly Leu Gln Gln Ala Leu Asn Gly Met Ala Pro Pro Gly  
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Asp Thr Ala Met His Val Pro Ala Gly Ser Val Ala Ser His Leu Gly  
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Thr Thr Ser Arg Ser Tyr Phe Tyr Leu Thr Thr Ala Thr Leu Ala Leu  
 35 40 45

Cys Leu Val Phe Thr Val Ala Thr Ile Met Val Leu Val Val Gln Arg  
 50 55 60

Thr Asp Ser Ile Pro Asn Ser Pro Asn Val Pro Leu Lys Gly Gly  
 65 70 75 80

Asn Cys Ser Glu Asp Leu Leu Cys Ile Leu Lys Arg Ala Pro Phe Lys  
 85 90 95

Lys Ser Trp Ala Tyr Leu Gln Val Ala Lys His Leu Asn Lys Thr Lys  
 100 105 110

Leu Ser Trp Asn Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu His Gly Val Arg Tyr Gln Asp  
 115 120 125

Gly Asn Leu Val Ile Gln Phe Pro Gly Leu Tyr Phe Ile Ile Cys Gln  
 130 135 140

Leu Gln Phe Leu Val Gln Cys Pro Asn Asn Ser Val Asp Leu Lys Leu  
 145 150 155 160

Glu Leu Leu Ile Asn Lys His Ile Lys Lys Gln Ala Leu Val Thr Val  
 165 170 175

Cys Glu Ser Gly Met Gln Thr Lys His Val Tyr Gln Asn Leu Ser Gln  
 180 185 190

Phe Leu Leu Asp Tyr Leu Gln Val Asn Thr Thr Ile Ser Val Asn Val  
 195 200 205

Asp Thr Phe Gln Tyr Ile Asp Thr Ser Thr Phe Pro Leu Glu Asn Val  
 210 215 220

Leu Ser Ile Phe Leu Tyr Ser Asn Ser Asp  
 225 230

<210> 17

<211> 1619

<212> DNA

<213> human

<400> 17

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ctgacggggg gcctgagcta caaaaggagac acgaaggagc tggtgtggc caaggctgga 420

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&lt;210&gt; 18

&lt;211&gt; 254

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; human

&lt;400&gt; 18

Met	Glu	Tyr	Ala	Ser	Asp	Ala	Ser	Leu	Asp	Pro	Glu	Ala	Pro	Trp	Pro
1						5				10				15	

Pro	Ala	Pro	Arg	Ala	Arg	Ala	Cys	Arg	Val	Leu	Pro	Trp	Ala	Leu	Val
							20			25			30		

Ala	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ala	Ala	Cys	Ala	Val	Phe						
								35				40			

Leu	Ala	Cys	Pro	Trp	Ala	Val	Ser	Gly	Ala	Arg	Ala	Ser	Pro	Gly	Ser
						50			55			60			

Ala	Ala	Ser	Pro	Arg	Leu	Arg	Glu	Gly	Pro	Glu	Leu	Ser	Pro	Asp	Asp
					65				70			75		80	

Pro	Ala	Gly	Leu	Leu	Asp	Leu	Arg	Gln	Gly	Met	Phe	Ala	Gln	Leu	Val
								85			90			95	

Ala	Gln	Asn	Val	Leu	Leu	Ile	Asp	Gly	Pro	Leu	Ser	Trp	Tyr	Ser	Asp
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

100

105

110

Pro Gly Leu Ala Gly Val Ser Leu Thr Gly Gly Leu Ser Tyr Lys Glu  
 115 120 125

Asp Thr Lys Glu Leu Val Val Ala Lys Ala Gly Val Tyr Tyr Val Phe  
 130 135 140

Phe Gln Leu Glu Leu Arg Arg Val Val Ala Gly Glu Gly Ser Gly Ser  
 145 150 155 160

Val Ser Leu Ala Leu His Leu Gln Pro Leu Arg Ser Ala Ala Gly Ala  
 165 170 175

Ala Ala Leu Ala Leu Thr Val Asp Leu Pro Pro Ala Ser Ser Glu Ala  
 180 185 190

Arg Asn Ser Ala Phe Gly Phe Gln Gly Arg Leu Leu His Leu Ser Ala  
 195 200 205

Gly Gln Arg Leu Gly Val His Leu His Thr Glu Ala Arg Ala Arg His  
 210 215 220

Ala Trp Gln Leu Thr Gln Gly Ala Thr Val Leu Gly Leu Phe Arg Val  
 225 230 235 240

Thr Pro Glu Ile Pro Ala Gly Leu Pro Ser Pro Arg Ser Glu  
 245 250

<210> 19  
<211> 1769  
<212> DNA  
<213> human

<400> 19  
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agtatgaaca gccccctgctg gcaagtcaag tggcaactcc gtcagctcgtagaaagatg 360  
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agaagcaaca cattgtcttc tccaaactcc aagaatgaaa aggctctggg ccgcaaaata 540  
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ggtaactgg tcatccatga aaaagggttt tactacatct attccaaac atactttcga 660  
tttcaggagg aaataaaaga aaacacaaag aacgacaaac aaatggtcca atatattac 720  
aaatacacaa gttatcctga ccctatatgg ttgatgaaaa gtgctagaaa tagttgttgg 780

tctaaagatg cagaatatgg actctattcc atctatcaag gggaatatt tgagcttaag	840
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&lt;210&gt; 20

&lt;211&gt; 281

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; human

&lt;400&gt; 20

Met	Ala	Met	Met	Glu	Val	Gln	Gly	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ileu	Gly	Gln	Thr	Cys
1				5					10				15		

Val	Leu	Ile	Val	Ile	Phe	Thr	Val	Leu	Leu	Gln	Ser	Leu	Cys	Val	Ala
					20				25				30		

Val	Thr	Tyr	Val	Tyr	Phe	Thr	Asn	Glu	Leu	Lys	Gln	Met	Gln	Asp	Lys
					35			40			45				

Tyr	Ser	Lys	Ser	Gly	Ile	Ala	Cys	Phe	Leu	Lys	Glu	Asp	Asp	Ser	Tyr
					50		55			60					

Trp	Asp	Pro	Asn	Asp	Glu	Glu	Ser	Met	Asn	Ser	Pro	Cys	Trp	Gln	Val
					65		70			75			80		

Lys	Trp	Gln	Leu	Arg	Gln	Leu	Val	Arg	Lys	Met	Ile	Leu	Arg	Thr	Ser
									85		90		95		

Glu Glu Thr Ile Ser Thr Val Gln Glu Lys Gln Gln Asn Ile Ser Pro  
 100 105 110

Leu Val Arg Glu Arg Gly Pro Gln Arg Val Ala Ala His Ile Thr Gly  
 115 120 125

Thr Arg Gly Arg Ser Asn Thr Leu Ser Ser Pro Asn Ser Lys Asn Glu  
 130 135 140

Lys Ala Leu Gly Arg Lys Ile Asn Ser Trp Glu Ser Ser Arg Ser Gly  
 145 150 155 160

His Ser Phe Leu Ser Asn Leu His Leu Arg Asn Gly Glu Leu Val Ile  
 165 170 175

His Glu Lys Gly Phe Tyr Tyr Ile Tyr Ser Gln Thr Tyr Phe Arg Phe  
 180 185 190

Gln Glu Glu Ile Lys Glu Asn Thr Lys Asn Asp Lys Gln Met Val Gln  
 195 200 205

Tyr Ile Tyr Lys Tyr Thr Ser Tyr Pro Asp Pro Ile Leu Leu Met Lys  
 210 215 220

Ser Ala Arg Asn Ser Cys Trp Ser Lys Asp Ala Glu Tyr Gly Leu Tyr  
 225 230 235 240

Ser Ile Tyr Gln Gly Gly Ile Phe Glu Leu Lys Glu Asn Asp Arg Ile  
 245 250 255

Phe Val Ser Val Thr Asn Glu His Leu Ile Asp Met Asp His Glu Ala  
 260 265 270

Ser Phe Phe Gly Ala Phe Leu Val Gly  
 275 280

<210> 21  
 <211> 1823  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> human

<400> 21  
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 cctgattcat gtaggagaat taaacaggcc tttcaaggag ctgtgcaaaa ggaattacaa 180  
 catatcggtt gatcacagca catcagagca gagaaagcga tggtgatgg ctcatggta 240  
 gatctggcca agaggagcaa gcttgaagct cagccctttt ctcatctcac tattatgcc 300  
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gggtgtc	atgcgcatt	gaaggatcat	ctgaaggggc	aaattttttt	gaattgttac		1140
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tttgc	tttgc	tttgc	tttgc	tttgc	tttgc	tttgc	1740
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<210> 22  
<211> 317  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

<400> 22

Met Arg Arg Ala Ser Arg Asp Tyr Thr Lys Tyr Leu Arg Gly Ser Glu  
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Glu Met Gly Gly Pro Gly Ala Pro His Glu Gly Pro Leu His Ala  
20 25 30

Pro Pro Pro Pro Ala Pro His Gln Pro Pro Ala Ala Ser Arg Ser Met

35

40

45

Phe Val Ala Leu Leu Gly Leu Gly Leu Gly Gln Val Val Cys Ser Val  
 50 55 60

Ala Leu Phe Phe Tyr Phe Arg Ala Gln Met Asp Pro Asn Arg Ile Ser  
 65 70 75 80

Glu Asp Gly Thr His Cys Ile Tyr Arg Ile Leu Arg Leu His Glu Asn  
 85 90 95

Ala Asp Phe Gln Asp Thr Thr Leu Glu Ser Gln Asp Thr Lys Leu Ile  
 100 105 110

Pro Asp Ser Cys Arg Arg Ile Lys Gln Ala Phe Gln Gly Ala Val Gln  
 115 120 125

Lys Glu Leu Gln His Ile Val Gly Ser Gln His Ile Arg Ala Glu Lys  
 130 135 140

Ala Met Val Asp Gly Ser Trp Leu Asp Leu Ala Lys Arg Ser Lys Leu  
 145 150 155 160

Glu Ala Gln Pro Phe Ala His Leu Thr Ile Asn Ala Thr Asp Ile Pro  
 165 170 175

Ser Gly Ser His Lys Val Ser Leu Ser Ser Trp Tyr His Asp Arg Gly  
 180 185 190

Trp Ala Lys Ile Ser Asn Met Thr Phe Ser Asn Gly Lys Leu Ile Val  
 195 200 205

Asn Gln Asp Gly Phe Tyr Tyr Leu Tyr Ala Asn Ile Cys Phe Arg His  
 210 215 220

His Glu Thr Ser Gly Asp Leu Ala Thr Glu Tyr Leu Gln Leu Met Val  
 225 230 235 240

Tyr Val Thr Lys Thr Ser Ile Lys Ile Pro Ser Ser His Thr Leu Met  
 245 250 255

Lys Gly Gly Ser Thr Lys Tyr Trp Ser Gly Asn Ser Glu Phe His Phe  
 260 265 270

Tyr Ser Ile Asn Val Gly Gly Phe Phe Lys Leu Arg Ser Gly Glu Glu  
 275 280 285

Ile Ser Ile Glu Val Ser Asn Pro Ser Leu Leu Asp Pro Asp Gln Asp  
 290 295 300

Ala Thr Tyr Phe Gly Ala Phe Lys Val Arg Asp Ile Asp  
 305 310 315

<210> 23

<211> 1306

<212> DNA

<213> human

<400> 23

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&lt;210&gt; 24

&lt;211&gt; 249

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; human

&lt;400&gt; 24

Met	Ala	Ala	Arg	Arg	Ser	Gln	Arg	Arg	Arg	Gly	Arg	Arg	Gly	Glu	Pro
1						5								15	

Gly	Thr	Ala	Leu	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Ala	Leu	Gly	Leu	Gly	Leu	Ala	Leu
						20				25			30		

Ala	Cys	Leu	Gly	Leu	Leu	Leu	Ala	Val	Val	Ser	Leu	Gly	Ser	Arg	Ala
							35			40			45		

Ser Leu Ser Ala Gln Glu Pro Ala Gln Glu Glu Leu Val Ala Glu Glu  
 50. 55 60  
 Asp Gln Asp Pro Ser Glu Leu Asn Pro Gln Thr Glu Glu Ser Gln Asp  
 65 70 75 80  
 Pro Ala Pro Phe Leu Asn Arg Leu Val Arg Pro Arg Arg Ser Ala Pro  
 85 90 95  
 Lys Gly Arg Lys Thr Arg Ala Arg Arg Ala Ile Ala Ala His Tyr Glu  
 100 105 110  
 Val His Pro Arg Pro Gly Gln Asp Gly Ala Gln Ala Gly Val Asp Gly  
 115 120 125  
 Thr Val Ser Gly Trp Glu Glu Ala Arg Ile Asn Ser Ser Pro Leu  
 130 135 140  
 Arg Tyr Asn Arg Gln Ile Gly Glu Phe Ile Val Thr Arg Ala Gly Leu  
 145 150 155 160  
 Tyr Tyr Leu Tyr Cys Gln Val His Phe Asp Glu Gly Lys Ala Val Tyr  
 165 170 175  
 Leu Lys Leu Asp Leu Leu Val Asp Gly Val Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys Leu  
 180 185 190  
 Glu Glu Phe Ser Ala Thr Ala Ala Ser Ser Leu Gly Pro Gln Leu Arg  
 195 200 205  
 Leu Cys Gln Val Ser Gly Leu Leu Ala Leu Arg Pro Gly Ser Ser Leu  
 210 215 220  
 Arg Ile Arg Thr Leu Pro Trp Ala His Leu Lys Ala Ala Pro Phe Leu  
 225 230 235 240  
 Thr Tyr Phe Gly Leu Phe Gln Val His  
 245

<210> 25  
 <211> 1348  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> human

<400> 25  
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<210> 26

<211> 250

<212> PRT

<213> human

<400> 26

Met Pro Ala Ser Ser Pro Phe Leu Leu Ala Pro Lys Gly Pro Pro Gly  
1 5 10 15

Asn Met Gly Gly Pro Val Arg Glu Pro Ala Leu Ser Val Ala Leu Trp  
20 25 30

Leu Ser Trp Gly Ala Ala Leu Gly Ala Val Ala Cys Ala Met Ala Leu  
35 40 45

Leu Thr Gln Gln Thr Glu Leu Gln Ser Leu Arg Arg Glu Val Ser Arg  
50 55 60

Leu Gln Gly Thr Gly Gly Pro Ser Gln Asn Gly Glu Gly Tyr Pro Trp  
65 70 75 80

Gln Ser Leu Pro Glu Gln Ser Ser Asp Ala Leu Glu Ala Trp Glu Asn  
85 90 95

Gly Glu Arg Ser Arg Lys Arg Arg Ala Val Leu Thr Gln Lys Gln Lys  
100 105 110

Lys Gln His Ser Val Leu His Leu Val Pro Ile Asn Ala Thr Ser Lys  
 115 120 125

Asp Asp Ser Asp Val Thr Glu Val Met Trp Gln Pro Ala Leu Arg Arg  
 130 135 140

Gly Arg Gly Leu Gln Ala Gln Gly Tyr Gly Val Arg Ile Gln Asp Ala  
 145 150 155 160

Gly Val Tyr Leu Leu Tyr Ser Gln Val Leu Phe Gln Asp Val Thr Phe  
 165 170 175

Thr Met Gly Gln Val Val Ser Arg Glu Gly Gln Gly Arg Gln Glu Thr  
 180 185 190

Leu Phe Arg Cys Ile Arg Ser Met Pro Ser His Pro Asp Arg Ala Tyr  
 195 200 205

Asn Ser Cys Tyr Ser Ala Gly Val Phe His Leu His Gln Gly Asp Ile  
 210 215 220

Leu Ser Val Ile Ile Pro Arg Ala Arg Ala Lys Leu Asn Leu Ser Pro  
 225 230 235 240

His Gly Thr Phe Leu Gly Phe Val Lys Leu  
 245 250

<210> 27

<211> 1126

<212> DNA

<213> human

<400> 27

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cctcccaacc ggaccggccc tacaacagct gctatagcgc aggtgtcttc catttacacc 720

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<210> 28  
<211> 234  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

<400> 28

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20	25	30

Leu Ser Trp Gly Ala Ala Leu Gly Ala Val Ala Cys Ala Met Ala Leu		
35	40	45

Leu Thr Gln Gln Thr Glu Leu Gln Ser Leu Arg Arg Glu Val Ser Arg		
50	55	60

Leu Gln Arg Thr Gly Gly Pro Ser Gln Asn Gly Glu Gly Tyr Pro Trp			
65	70	75	80

Gln Ser Leu Pro Glu Gln Ser Ser Asp Ala Leu Glu Ala Trp Glu Ser		
85	90	95

Gly Glu Arg Ser Arg Lys Arg Arg Ala Val Leu Thr Gln Lys Gln Lys		
100	105	110

Asn Asp Ser Asp Val Thr Glu Val Met Trp Gln Pro Ala Leu Arg Arg		
115	120	125

Gly Arg Gly Leu Gln Ala Gln Gly Tyr Gly Val Arg Ile Gln Asp Ala		
130	135	140

Gly Val Tyr Leu Leu Tyr Ser Gln Val Leu Phe Gln Asp Val Thr Phe			
145	150	155	160

Thr Met Gly Gln Val Val Ser Arg Glu Gly Gln Gly Arg Gln Glu Thr		
165	170	175

Leu Phe Arg Cys Ile Arg Ser Met Pro Ser His Pro Asp Arg Ala Tyr		
180	185	190

Asn Ser Cys Tyr Ser Ala Gly Val Phe His Leu His Gln Gly Asp Ile		
195	200	205

Leu Ser Val Ile Ile Pro Arg Ala Arg Ala Lys Leu Asn Leu Ser Pro		
210	215	220

His Gly Thr Phe Leu Gly Phe Val Lys Leu  
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gcattgaaac tgctgtga 858

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<211> 285  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

<400> 30

Met Asp Asp Ser Thr Glu Arg Glu Gln Ser Arg Leu Thr Ser Cys Leu  
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Lys Lys Arg Glu Glu Met Lys Leu Lys Glu Cys Val Ser Ile Leu Pro  
 20                25                                    30

Arg Lys Glu Ser Pro Ser Val Arg Ser Ser Lys Asp Gly Lys Leu Leu  
 35                40                                    45

Ala Ala Thr Leu Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Ser Cys Cys Leu Thr Val Val  
 50                55                                    60

Ser Phe Tyr Gln Val Ala Ala Leu Gln Gly Asp Leu Ala Ser Leu Arg  
 65 70 75 80  
 Ala Glu Leu Gln Gly His His Ala Glu Lys Leu Pro Ala Gly Ala Gly  
 85 90 95  
 Ala Pro Lys Ala Gly Leu Glu Glu Ala Pro Ala Val Thr Ala Gly Leu  
 100 105 110  
 Lys Ile Phe Glu Pro Pro Ala Pro Gly Glu Gly Asn Ser Ser Gln Asn  
 115 120 125  
 Ser Arg Asn Lys Arg Ala Val Gln Gly Pro Glu Glu Thr Val Thr Gln  
 130 135 140  
 Asp Cys Leu Gln Leu Ile Ala Asp Ser Glu Thr Pro Thr Ile Gln Lys  
 145 150 155 160  
 Gly Ser Tyr Thr Phe Val Pro Trp Leu Leu Ser Phe Lys Arg Gly Ser  
 165 170 175  
 Ala Leu Glu Glu Lys Glu Asn Lys Ile Leu Val Lys Glu Thr Gly Tyr  
 180 185 190  
 Phe Phe Ile Tyr Gly Gln Val Leu Tyr Thr Asp Lys Thr Tyr Ala Met  
 195 200 205  
 Gly His Leu Ile Gln Arg Lys Lys Val His Val Phe Gly Asp Glu Leu  
 210 215 220  
 Ser Leu Val Thr Leu Phe Arg Cys Ile Gln Asn Met Pro Glu Thr Leu  
 225 230 235 240  
 Pro Asn Asn Ser Cys Tyr Ser Ala Gly Ile Ala Lys Leu Glu Glu Gly  
 245 250 255  
 Asp Glu Leu Gln Leu Ala Ile Pro Arg Glu Asn Ala Gln Ile Ser Leu  
 260 265 270  
 Asp Gly Asp Val Thr Phe Phe Gly Ala Leu Lys Leu Leu  
 275 280 285  
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aaaaaagaga	ataaaatatt	ggtcaaagaa	actggttact	tttttatata	tggtcaggtt	540
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<210> 32  
<211> 266  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

<400> 32

Met	Asp	Asp	Ser	Thr	Glu	Arg	Glu	Gln	Ser	Arg	Leu	Thr	Ser	Cys	Leu
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Lys	Lys	Arg	Glu	Glu	Met	Lys	Leu	Lys	Glu	Cys	Val	Ser	Ile	Leu	Pro
					20			25					30		

Arg	Lys	Glu	Ser	Pro	Ser	Val	Arg	Ser	Ser	Lys	Asp	Gly	Lys	Leu	Leu
					35			40				45			

Ala	Ala	Thr	Leu	Leu	Leu	Ala	Leu	Leu	Ser	Cys	Cys	Leu	Thr	Val	Val
					50			55			60				

Ser	Phe	Tyr	Gln	Val	Ala	Ala	Leu	Gln	Gly	Asp	Leu	Ala	Ser	Leu	Arg
					65			70			75			80	

Ala	Glu	Leu	Gln	Gly	His	His	Ala	Glu	Lys	Leu	Pro	Ala	Gly	Ala	Gly
					85				90				95		

Ala	Pro	Lys	Ala	Gly	Leu	Glu	Glu	Ala	Pro	Ala	Val	Thr	Ala	Gly	Leu
					100			105				110			

Lys	Ile	Phe	Glu	Pro	Pro	Ala	Pro	Gly	Glu	Gly	Asn	Ser	Ser	Gln	Asn
					115			120				125			

Ser	Arg	Asn	Lys	Arg	Ala	Val	Gln	Gly	Pro	Glu	Glu	Thr	Gly	Ser	Tyr
					130			135			140				

Thr	Phe	Val	Pro	Trp	Leu	Leu	Ser	Phe	Lys	Arg	Gly	Ser	Ala	Leu	Glu
					145			150			155			160	

Glu	Lys	Glu	Asn	Lys	Ile	Leu	Val	Lys	Glu	Thr	Gly	Tyr	Phe	Phe	Ile
					165			170				175			

Tyr	Gly	Gln	Val	Leu	Tyr	Thr	Asp	Lys	Thr	Tyr	Ala	Met	Gly	His	Leu
					180			185				190			

Ile Gln Arg Lys Lys Val His Val Phe Gly Asp Glu Leu Ser Leu Val  
 195 200 205

Thr Leu Phe Arg Cys Ile Gln Asn Met Pro Glu Thr Leu Pro Asn Asn  
 210 215 220

Ser Cys Tyr Ser Ala Gly Ile Ala Lys Leu Glu Glu Gly Asp Glu Leu  
 225 230 235 240

Gln Leu Ala Ile Pro Arg Glu Asn Ala Gln Ile Ser Leu Asp Gly Asp  
 245 250 255

Val Thr Phe Phe Gly Ala Leu Lys Leu Leu  
 260 265

<210> 33

<211> 1169

<212> DNA

<213> human

<400> 33

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ttgctgtatgg gggctggct gcccgtccaa ggctggtcc tcctgcagct gcactggcgt	240
ctaggagaga tggtcaccccg cctgcctgac ggacctgcag gtcctggaa gcagctgata	300
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<210> 34  
<211> 240  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

<400> 34

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Thr Asp Ile Pro Phe Thr Arg Leu Gly Arg Ser His Arg Arg Gln Ser  
20              25              30

Cys Ser Val Ala Arg Val Gly Leu Gly Leu Leu Leu Met Gly  
35              40              45

Ala Gly Leu Ala Val Gln Gly Trp Phe Leu Leu Gln Leu His Trp Arg  
50              55              60

Leu Gly Glu Met Val Thr Arg Leu Pro Asp Gly Pro Ala Gly Ser Trp  
65              70              75              80

Glu Gln Leu Ile Gln Glu Arg Arg Ser His Glu Val Asn Pro Ala Ala  
85              90              95

His Leu Thr Gly Ala Asn Ser Ser Leu Thr Gly Ser Gly Gly Pro Leu  
100             105             110

Leu Trp Glu Thr Gln Leu Gly Leu Ala Phe Leu Arg Gly Leu Ser Tyr  
115             120             125

His Asp Gly Ala Leu Val Val Thr Lys Ala Gly Tyr Tyr Tyr Ile Tyr  
130             135             140

Ser Lys Val Gln Leu Gly Gly Val Gly Cys Pro Leu Gly Leu Ala Ser  
145             150             155             160

Thr Ile Thr His Gly Leu Tyr Lys Arg Thr Pro Arg Tyr Pro Glu Glu  
165             170             175

Leu Glu Leu Leu Val Ser Gln Gln Ser Pro Cys Gly Arg Ala Thr Ser  
180             185             190

Ser Ser Arg Val Trp Trp Asp Ser Ser Phe Leu Gly Gly Val Val His  
195             200             205

Leu Glu Ala Gly Glu Glu Val Val Val Arg Val Leu Asp Glu Arg Leu  
210             215             220

Val Arg Leu Arg Asp Gly Thr Arg Ser Tyr Phe Gly Ala Phe Met Val  
225             230             235             240

<210> 35  
<211> 2785  
<212> DNA  
<213> human

<220>

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<223> n equals a, g, c or t

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<210> 36  
<211> 174  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

<400> 36

Met Arg Arg Phe Leu Ser Lys Val Tyr Ser Phe Pro Met Arg Lys Leu  
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Ile Leu Phe Leu Val Phe Pro Val Val Arg Gln Thr Pro Thr Gln His  
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Phe Lys Asn Gln Phe Pro Ala Leu His Trp Glu His Glu Leu Gly Leu  
35 40 45

Ala Phe Thr Lys Asn Arg Met Asn Tyr Thr Asn Lys Phe Leu Leu Ile  
50 55 60

Pro Glu Ser Gly Asp Tyr Phe Ile Tyr Ser Gln Val Thr Phe Arg Gly  
 65                   70                   75                   80

Met Thr Ser Glu Cys Ser Glu Ile Arg Gln Ala Gly Arg Pro Asn Lys  
 85                   90                   95

Pro Asp Ser Ile Thr Val Val Ile Thr Lys Val Thr Asp Ser Tyr Pro  
 100                 105                 110

Glu Pro Thr Gln Leu Leu Met Gly Thr Lys Ser Val Cys Glu Val Gly  
 115                 120                 125

Ser Asn Trp Phe Gln Pro Ile Tyr Leu Gly Ala Met Phe Ser Leu Gln  
 130                 135                 140

Glu Gly Asp Lys Leu Met Val Asn Val Ser Asp Ile Ser Leu Val Asp  
 145                 150                 155                 160

Tyr Thr Lys Glu Asp Lys Thr Phe Phe Gly Ala Phe Leu Leu  
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<210> 37  
<211> 1116  
<212> DNA  
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<210> 38  
 <211> 251  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> human

<400> 38

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Met Leu Pro Glu His Gly Ser Cys Arg Pro Lys Ala Arg Ser Ser Ser  
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Ala Arg Trp Ala Leu Thr Cys Cys Leu Val Leu Leu Pro Phe Leu Ala  
 35 40 45

Gly Leu Thr Thr Tyr Leu Leu Val Ser Gln Leu Arg Ala Gln Gly Glu  
 50 55 60

Ala Cys Val Gln Phe Gln Ala Leu Lys Gly Gln Glu Phe Ala Pro Ser  
 65 70 75 80

His Gln Gln Val Tyr Ala Pro Leu Arg Ala Asp Gly Asp Lys Pro Arg  
 85 90 95

Ala His Leu Thr Val Val Arg Gln Thr Pro Thr Gln His Phe Lys Asn  
 100 105 110

Gln Phe Pro Ala Leu His Trp Glu His Glu Leu Gly Leu Ala Phe Thr  
 115 120 125

Lys Asn Arg Met Asn Tyr Thr Asn Lys Phe Leu Leu Ile Pro Glu Ser  
 130 135 140

Gly Asp Tyr Phe Ile Tyr Ser Gln Val Thr Phe Arg Gly Met Thr Ser  
 145 150 155 160

Glu Cys Ser Glu Ile Arg Gln Ala Gly Arg Pro Asn Lys Pro Asp Ser  
 165 170 175

Ile Thr Val Val Ile Thr Lys Val Thr Asp Ser Tyr Pro Glu Pro Thr  
 180 185 190

Gln Leu Leu Met Gly Thr Lys Ser Val Cys Glu Val Gly Ser Asn Trp  
 195 200 205

Phe Gln Pro Ile Tyr Leu Gly Ala Met Phe Ser Leu Gln Glu Gly Asp  
 210 215 220

Lys Leu Met Val Asn Val Ser Asp Ile Ser Leu Val Asp Tyr Thr Lys  
 225 230 235 240

Glu Asp Lys Thr Phe Phe Gly Ala Phe Leu Leu  
 245 250

<210> 39  
<211> 534  
<212> DNA  
<213> human

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<210> 40  
<211> 177  
<212> PRT  
<213> human

<400> 40

Met Cys Leu Ser His Leu Glu Asn Met Pro Leu Ser His Ser Arg Thr  
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Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
15 May 2003 (15.05.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
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- (21) International Application Number:  
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60/307,838 27 July 2001 (27.07.2001) US
- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): HUMAN GENOME SCIENCES, INC. [US/US]; 9410 Key West Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): HILBERT, David, H. [US/US]; 8501 Meadowlark Lane, Bethesda, MD 20817 (US). ROSEN, Craig, A. [US/US]; 22400 Rolling Hill Lane, Laytonsville, MD 20882 (US).
- (74) Agents: HOOVER, Kenley, H. et al.; Human Genome Sciences, Inc., 9410 Key West Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— with international search report  
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
16 September 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

A3

(54) Title: HETEROMULTIMERIC TNF LIGAND FAMILY MEMBERS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to compositions comprising heteromultimeric complexes, and particularly heterotrimeric complexes, of TNF ligand family members, and methods of using such complexes in the detection, prevention, and treatment of disease. Heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes comprising human TNF ligand polypeptides, including soluble forms of the extracellular domains, as well as membrane bound forms of TNF ligand polypeptides are provided. Heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes are also provided as are vectors, host cells and recombinant methods for producing the same. The invention further relates to screening methods for identifying agonists and antagonists of heteromultimeric TNF ligand polypeptide complexes. Also provided are diagnostic methods for detecting immune system-related disorders and therapeutic methods for treating immune system-related disorders.

WO 2003/040307 A3

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/23782

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : C12N 5/10, 15/12, 15/63; C07K 14/52, 14/525, 16/24; A61K 38/19  
 US CL : 530/350, 402, 387.1, 387.9; 435/69.7, 71.1, 71.2, 471, 320.1, 325, 252.3; 514/2, 8, 12  
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 U.S. : 530/350, 402, 387.1, 387.9; 435/69.7, 71.1, 71.2, 471, 320.1, 325, 252.3; 514/2, 8, 12

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
 none

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
 Please See Continuation Sheet

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,P	US, A, 6,329,148 B1 (ROSEN et al.) 11 December 2001, see entire document.	1-43

<input type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	See patent family annex.
*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
10 May 2004 (10.05.2004)	02 AUG 2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306	Authorized officer <i>Darlene Bell-Harris Jr.</i> Prema Mertz Telephone No. (571) 272-1600

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.
PCT/US02/23782

**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)**

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claim Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claim Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claim Nos.: 44-46  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

PCT/US02/23782

**Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:**  
CAS ONLINE, MEDLINE, CAPLUS, USPATFULL  
search terms: heteromer, cytokine, antibody, treatment, administer, therapy